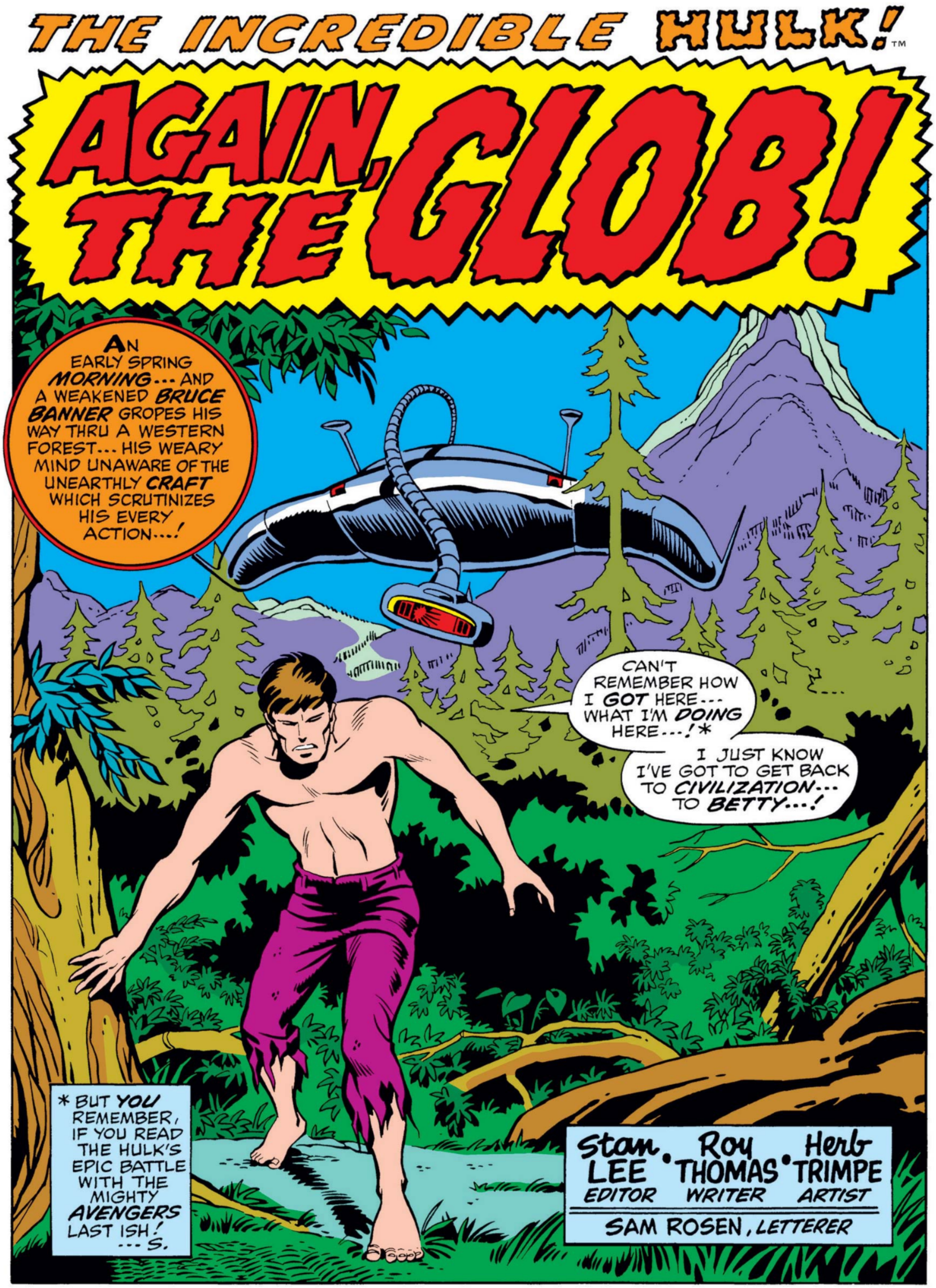
INCREDIBLE HULK
15¢
129
JULY
TM
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
HULK
TM
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
CAN'T... HOLD ON! GOING TO FALL...!!
TRIMPE
THE GLOB WRITHES AGAIN!



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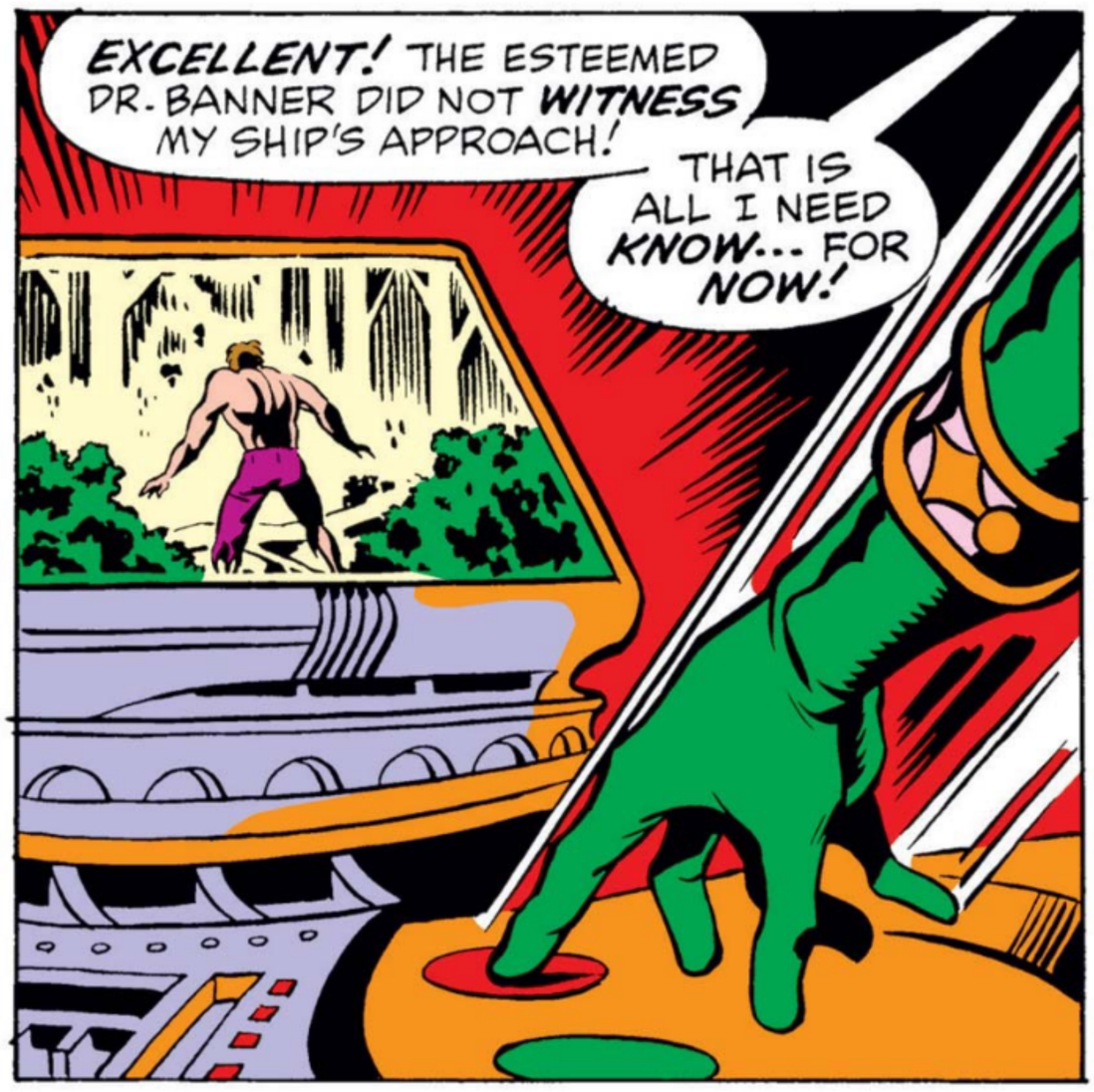
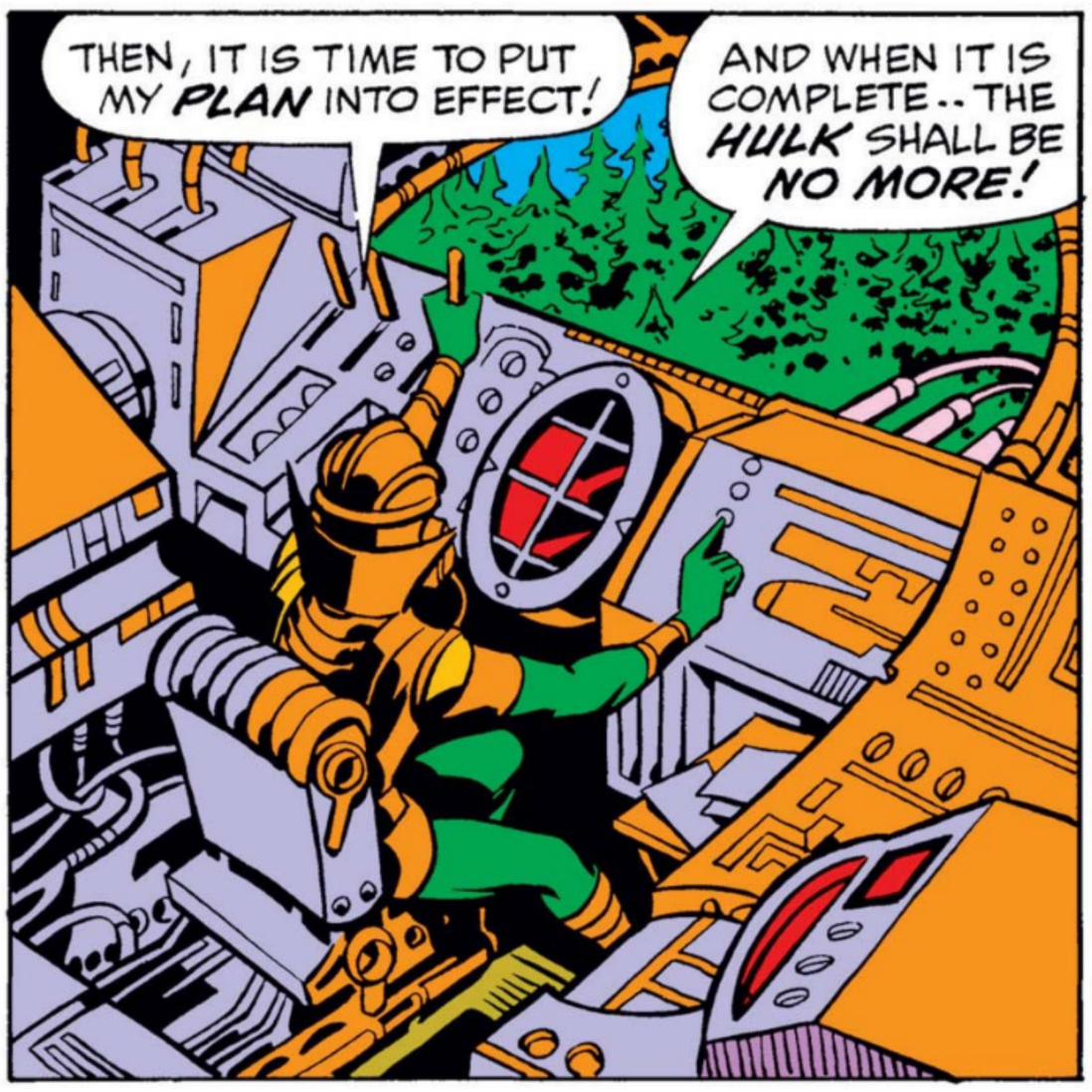
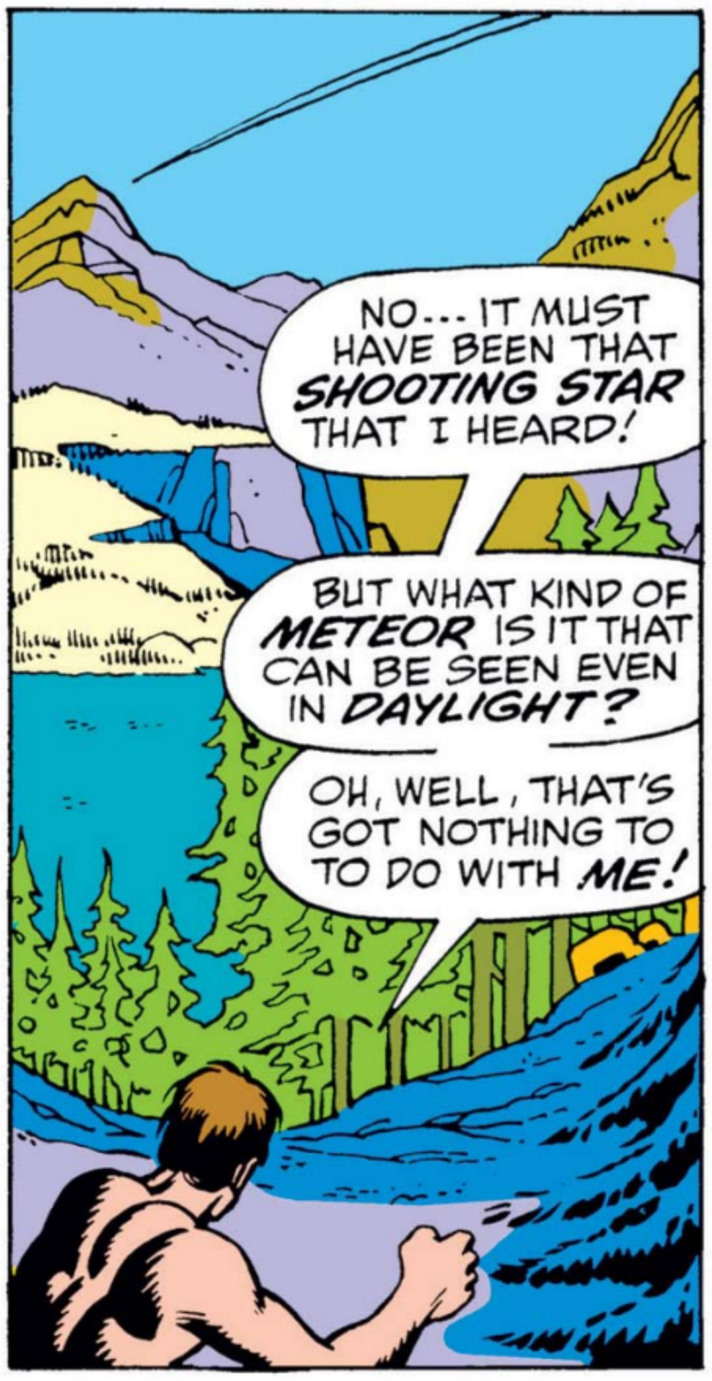
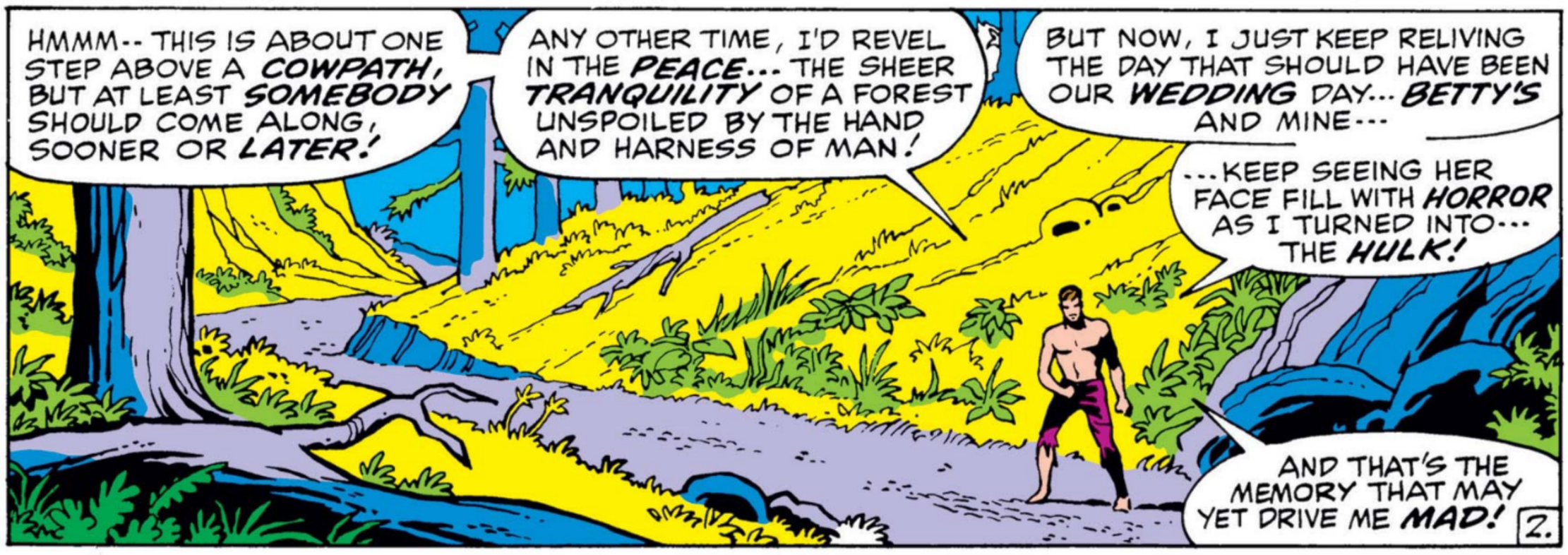

EXCELLENT! THE ESTEEMED DR. BANNER DID NOT WITNESS MY SHIP'S APPROACH!
THAT IS ALL I NEED KNOW... FOR NOW!


THEN, IT IS TIME TO PUT MY PLAN INTO EFFECT!
AND WHEN IT IS COMPLETE.. THE HULK SHALL BE NO MORE!

WHAT'S THAT? SOME KIND OF WEIRD HUMMING NOISE IN THE SKY...!
SOME KIND OF PLANE, OR...?

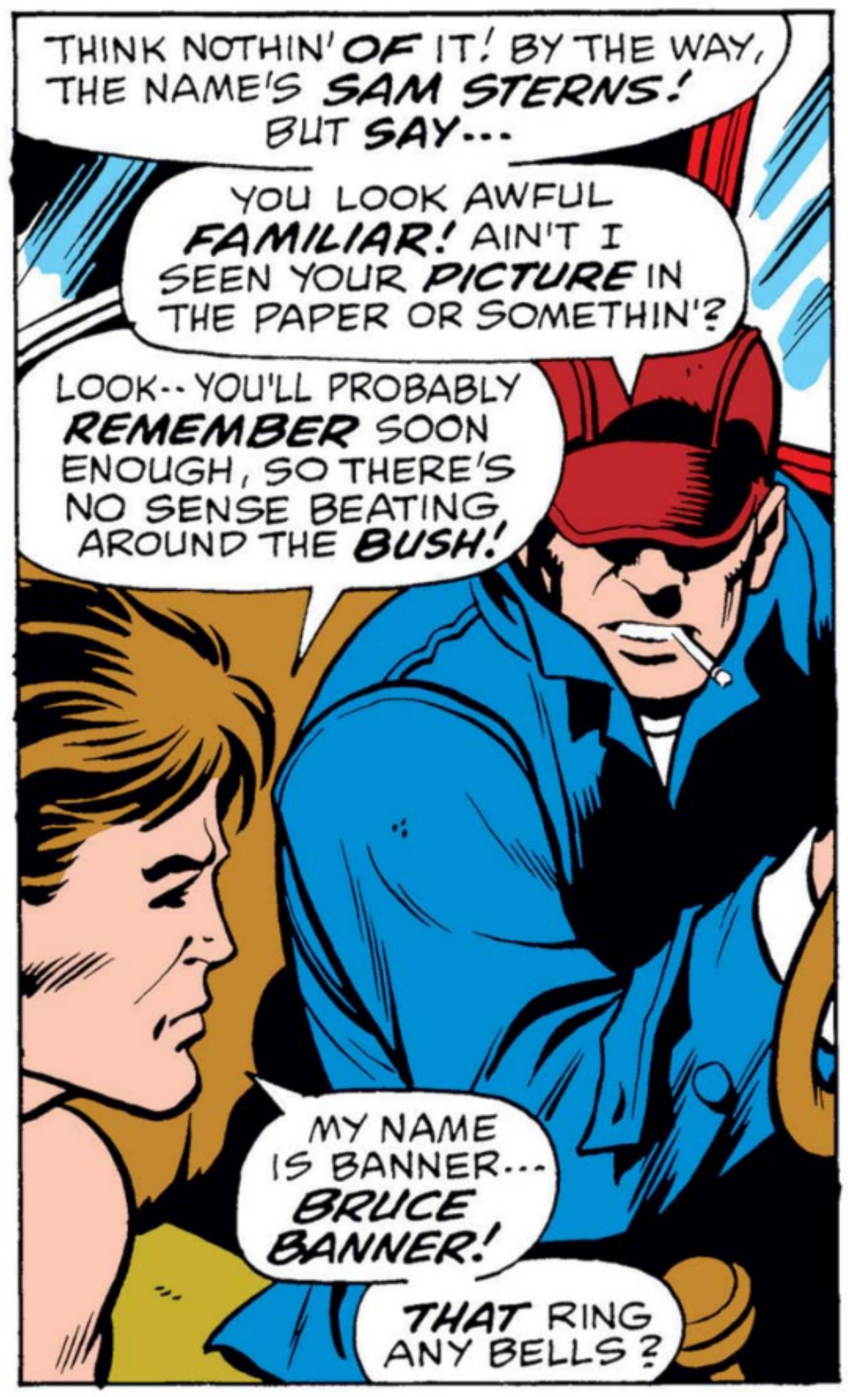

NO... IT MUST HAVE BEEN THAT SHOOTING STAR THAT I HEARD!
BUT WHAT KIND OF METEOR IS IT THAT CAN BE SEEN EVEN IN DAYLIGHT?
OH, WELL, THAT'S GOT NOTHING TO TO DO WITH ME!

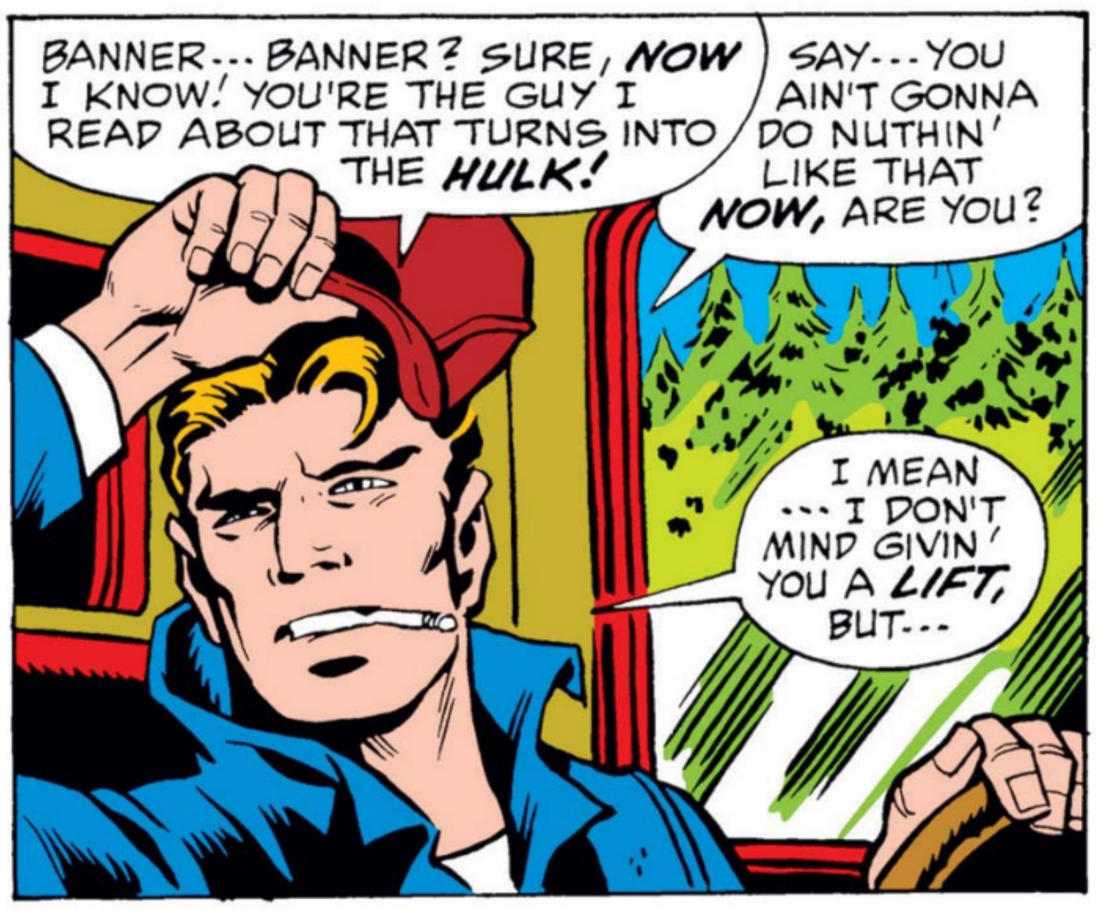
WHAT THE HEY! WHILE I WAS STAR-GAZING, I ALMOST MISSED SEEING THAT ROAD DOWN THERE!
THIS COULD BE THE FIRST REAL BREAK I'VE HAD FOR WEEKS!


HMMM-- THIS IS ABOUT ONE STEP ABOVE A COWPATH, BUT AT LEAST SOMEBODY SHOULD COME ALONG, SOONER OR LATER!
ANY OTHER TIME, I'D REVEL IN THE PEACE... THE SHEER TRANQUILITY OF A FOREST UNSPOILED BY THE HAND AND HARNESS OF MAN!
BUT NOW, I JUST KEEP RELIVING THE DAY THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN OUR WEDDING DAY... BETTY'S AND MINE...
...KEEP SEEING HER FACE FILL WITH HORROR AS I TURNED INTO... THE HULK!
AND THAT'S THE MEMORY THAT MAY YET DRIVE ME MAD!
2.

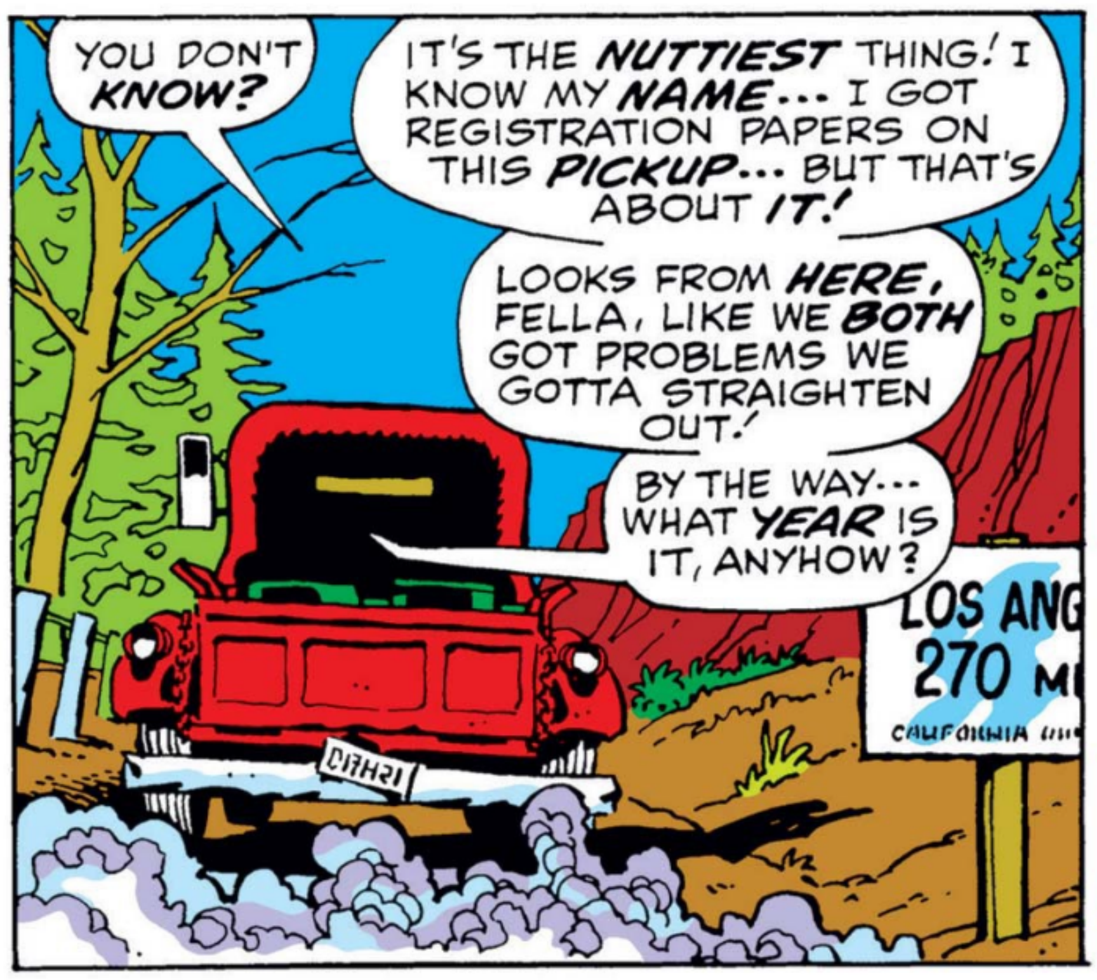
IF ONLY I COULD REACH HER--- TELL HER I'M ALL RIGHT--- THAT---
WADDAYA KNOW! HERE COMES A TRUCK!
IF HE'S NOT SHY OF HITCH-HIKERS, THIS COULD BE MY LUCKY DAY!

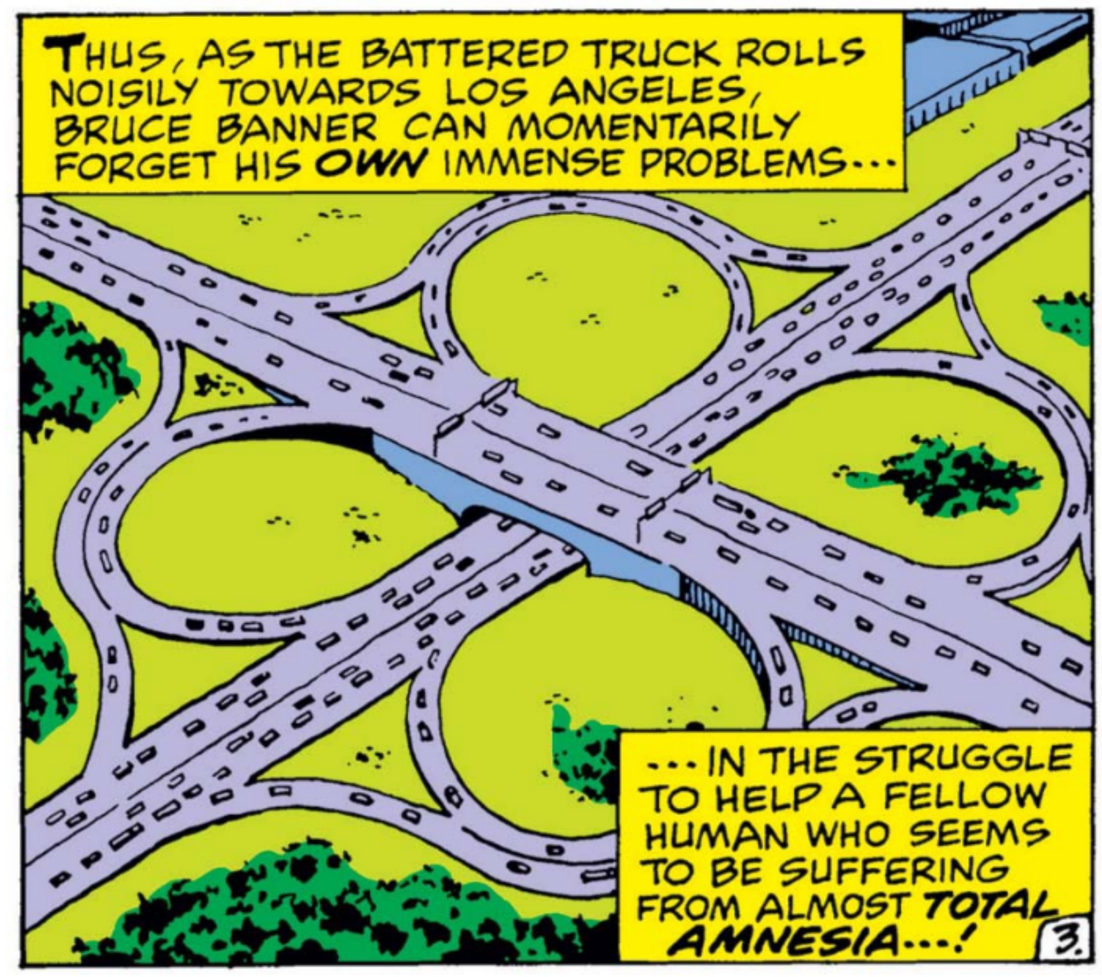
---A RIDE? SURE, I'M GOIN' IN TO L.A. MYSELF--- I GUESS!
YOU'RE LUCKY I HAPPENED BY! A GUY CAN CATCH HIS DEATH, RUNNIN' AROUND BAREBACK LIKE THAT!
YOU'RE TELLING ME!
ANYWAY, THANKS FOR THE LIFT, FELLA!


THINK NOTHIN' OF IT! BY THE WAY, THE NAME'S SAM STERNS! BUT SAY---
YOU LOOK AWFUL FAMILIAR! AIN'T I SEEN YOUR PICTURE IN THE PAPER OR SOMETHIN'?
LOOK-- YOU'LL PROBABLY REMEMBER SOON ENOUGH, SO THERE'S NO SENSE BEATING AROUND THE BUSH!
MY NAME IS BANNER--- BRUCE BANNER!
THAT RING ANY BELLS?


BANNER--- BANNER? SURE, NOW I KNOW! YOU'RE THE GUY I READ ABOUT THAT TURNS INTO THE HULK!
SAY--- YOU AIN'T GONNA DO NUTHIN' LIKE THAT NOW, ARE YOU?
I MEAN --- I DON'T MIND GIVIN' YOU A LIFT, BUT---

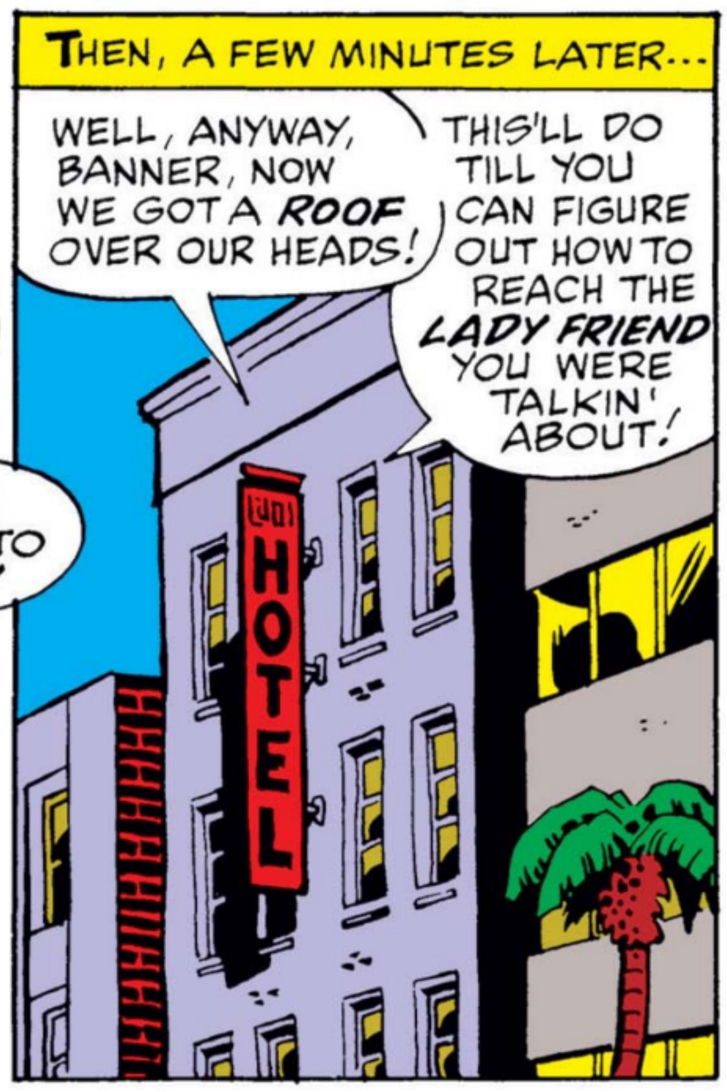
DON'T WORRY, FRIEND! THAT ONLY HAPPENS WHEN I GET EXCITED ---OR ANGRY!
BY THE WAY, MAY I ASK WHAT YOU WERE DOING ON THIS LONELY STRETCH OF ROAD?
THE PLAIN FACT IS, MISTER--- I DON'T KNOW!


YOU DON'T KNOW?
IT'S THE NUTTIEST THING! I KNOW MY NAME--- I GOT REGISTRATION PAPERS ON THIS PICKUP--- BUT THAT'S ABOUT IT!
LOOKS FROM HERE, FELLA, LIKE WE BOTH GOT PROBLEMS WE GOTTA STRAIGHTEN OUT!
BY THE WAY--- WHAT YEAR IS IT, ANYHOW?
LOS ANG
270 M
CALIFORNIA


THUS, AS THE BATTERED TRUCK ROLLS NOISILY TOWARDS LOS ANGELES, BRUCE BANNER CAN MOMENTARILY FORGET HIS OWN IMMENSE PROBLEMS---
---IN THE STRUGGLE TO HELP A FELLOW HUMAN WHO SEEMS TO BE SUFFERING FROM ALMOST TOTAL AMNESIA---!

...THEN YOU REALLY DON'T REMEMBER A THING, UNTIL A FEW HOURS AGO...
...WHEN YOU FOUND YOURSELF DRIVING DOWN THAT LONELY BACK ROAD?
THAT'S ABOUT THE SIZE OF IT, BUDDY!

FACT IS, THE MAIN REASON I PICKED YOU UP IS BECAUSE I HAD A HUNCH... I KNEW YOU FROM SOMEWHERE!
BUT, YOU SAY YOU NEVER SAW ME BEFORE, SO I MUST'A BEEN WRONG!
WELL, I KNOW YOU NOW... AND YOU GAVE ME THESE CLOTHES...
SO THE LEAST I CAN DO IS TRY TO HELP!


THEN, A FEW MINUTES LATER...
WELL, ANYWAY, BANNER, NOW WE GOT A ROOF OVER OUR HEADS!
THIS'LL DO TILL YOU CAN FIGURE OUT HOW TO REACH THE LADY FRIEND YOU WERE TALKIN' ABOUT!
HOTEL

THANKS, PAL! I'LL PAY YOU BACK... BUT RIGHT NOW I'M FRESH OUT OF CASH!
LOOK, I DON'T KNOW WHERE I GOT MY MONEY, EITHER!
NOW, WHAT SAY WE GRIT UP?

... LOOK, BRUCE, I KNOW IT AINT NO BUSINESS OF A NOBODY LIKE ME...
BUT DON'T YOU HAVE ANY REAL CLOSE FRIENDS YOU CAN TURN TO?
BEING THE HULK HAS MADE THAT SORT-OF HARD!

STRANGELY ENOUGH, THE HULK HIMSELF CAME CLOSE TO HAVING A FRIEND ONCE... A GIANT CALLED MOGOL!
BUT HE TURNED OUT TO BE A ROBOT... AND THE HULK DESTROYED HIM!
AND YET.. THERE WAS ALMOST ONE OTHER..!

"..A BIZARRE, INHUMAN GROTESQUERIE YOU MIGHT HAVE CALLED THE GLOB... A SWAMP-BORN MONSTER WHO WAS PROBABLY EVEN STRONGER THAN THE HULK, IF THAT'S POSSIBLE!"
" THEY MET.. AND BATTLED .. IN THE EVERGLADES, UNTIL SPECIAL RADIATION KILLED THE CREATURE!"*
* AS WITNESSED IN THE IMMORTAL ISH #121! ..STAN.

THE TWO FRIENDS-OF-THE-ROAD TALK ON, UNTIL SUDDENLY...
UHH... 'SCUZE ME, BRUCE... I..I GOTTA GO..!
HERE, SAM.. LET ME HELP YOU UP TO YOUR ROOM!
JUST GOT THIS... BAD HEADACHE..!
NO! CAN'T GO BACK TO THAT ROOM... I CAN'T!

LEAVE ME ALONE, WILL YOU... JUST LEAVE ME ALONE!!
WHAT IN THE NAME OF SANITY..?
YOU CAN HAVE THE ROOM.. I .. I GOTTA GO!
CAN'T LET HIM JUST RUN OFF THAT WAY...!

HE'S GONE... PROBABLY DUCKED INTO SOME ALLEY SOMEWHERE!
I SHOULD HAVE RUN AFTER HIM RIGHT AWAY.. INSTEAD OF HESITATING!

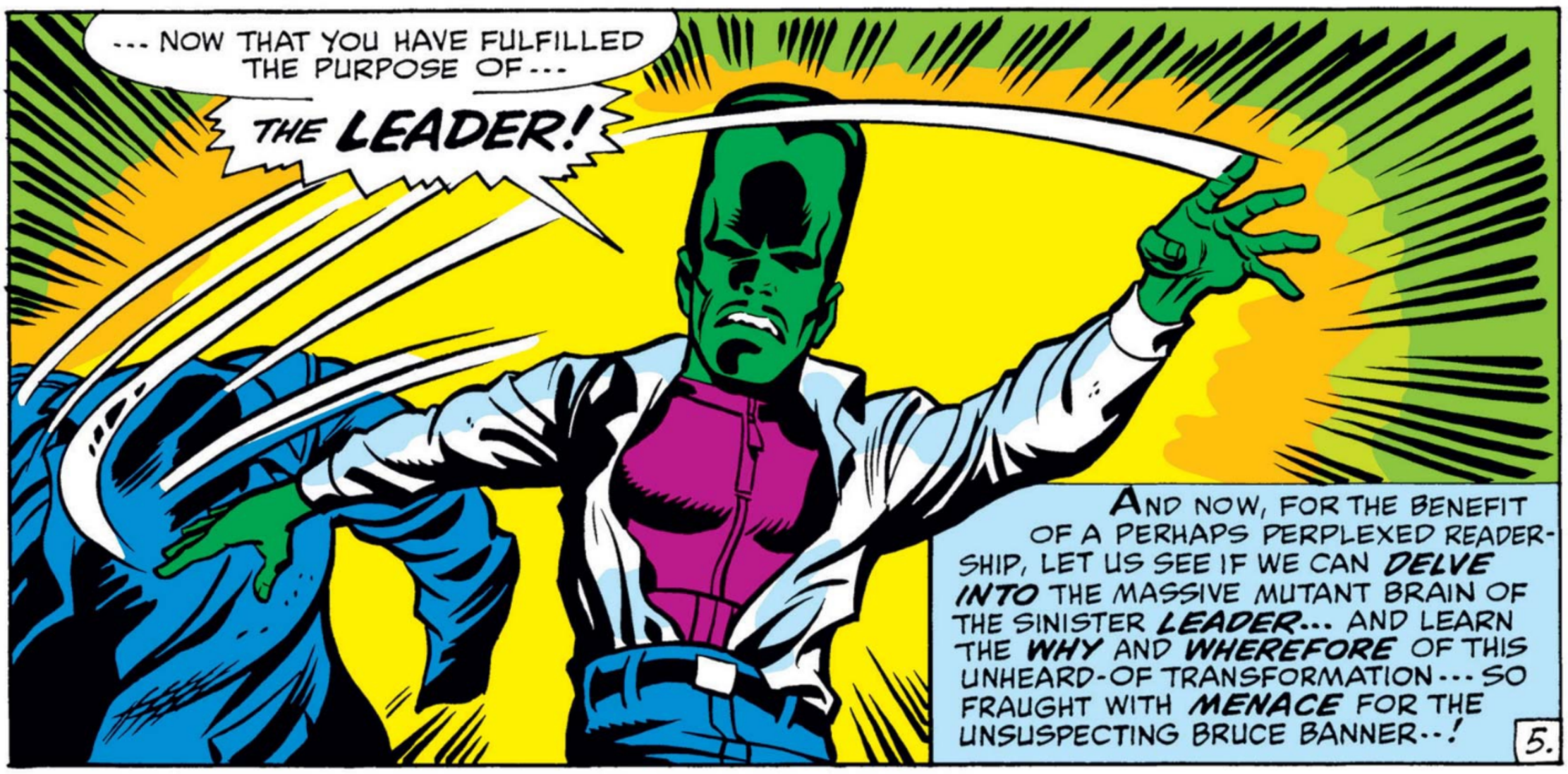
BUT... WHY DID HE JUST TEAR OFF LIKE A BAT?
DIDN'T HE KNOW I WANTED TO HELP HIM FIND HIMSELF...JUST AS HE'D HELPED ME?

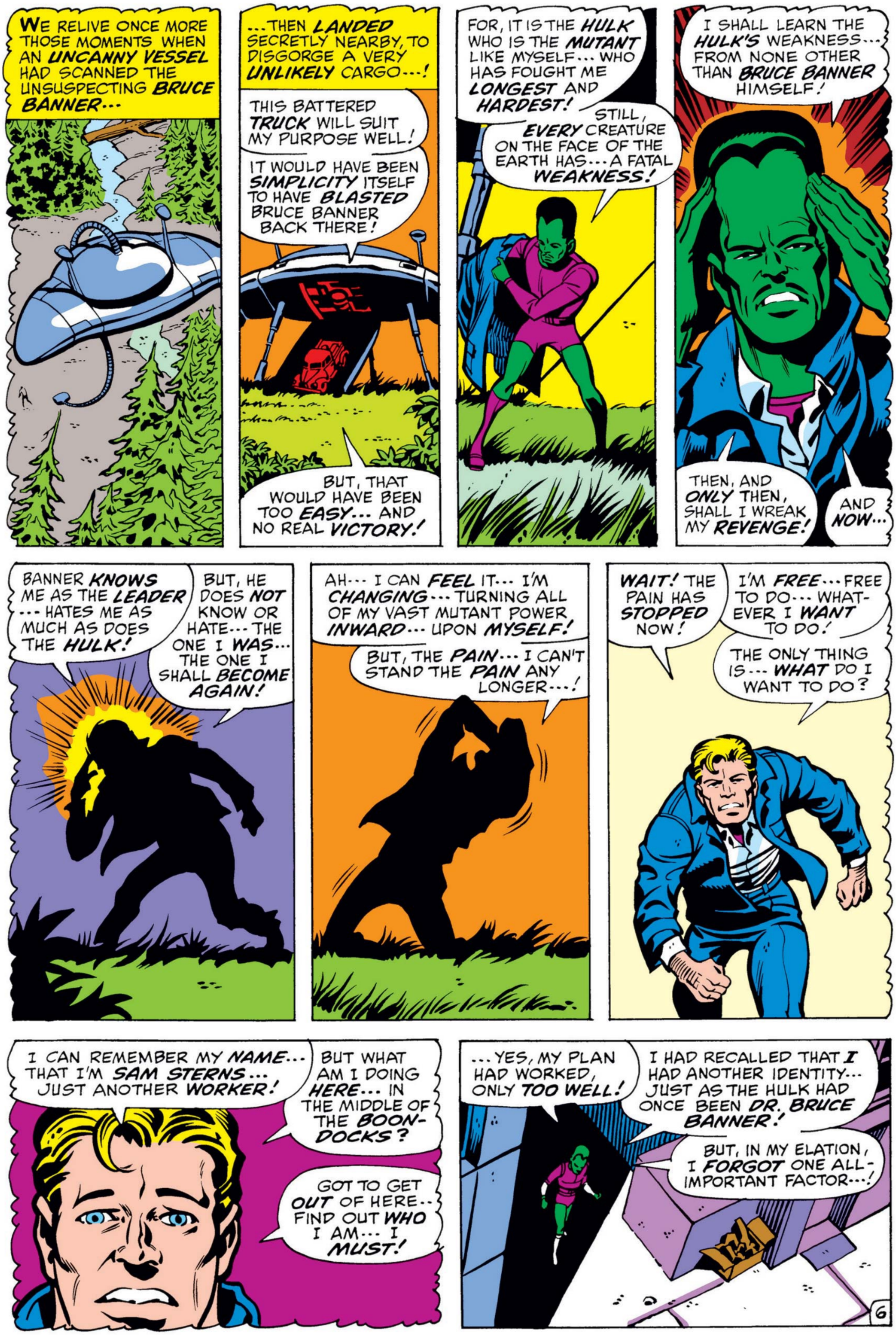
WELL, IT'S ALL OUT OF MY HANDS NOW!
I'LL HAVE TO CONCENTRATE ON KEEPING MYSELF OUT OF THE AUTHORITIES' WAY!
I'LL PROBABLY NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN!

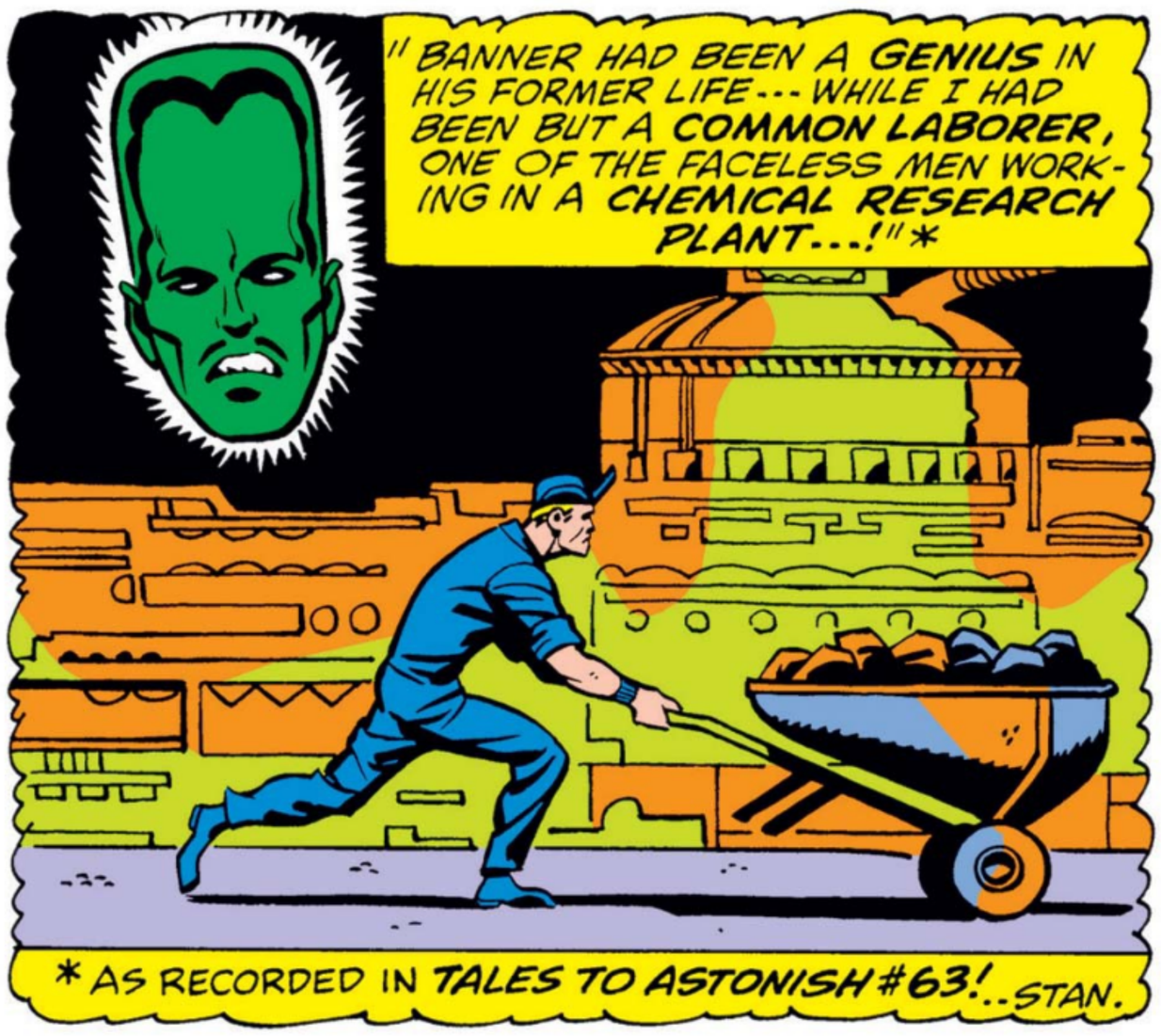
WHILE, ONLY A FEW SHORT BLOCKS AWAY...
MY HEAD.. IT FEELS LIKE IT'S GOING TO SPLIT!
WHY SHOULD I BE TORMENTED LIKE THIS? WHY??

THEN, ASTONISHINGLY, A SECOND VOICE FROM WITHIN SAM STERNS GIVES ANSWER...!
ASK RATHER, FOOL, WHY YOU SHOULD NOT BE TORMENTED!

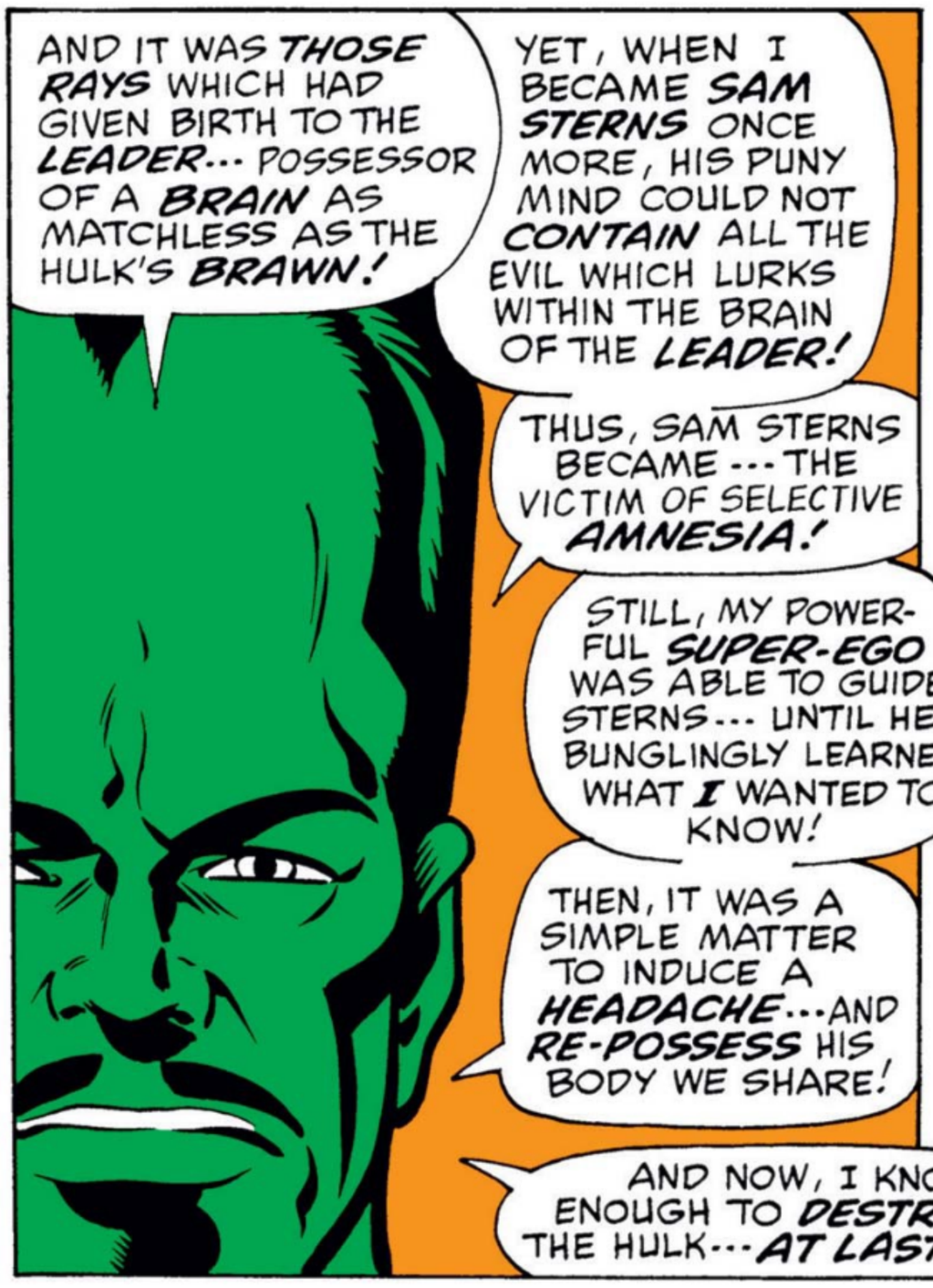
AFTER ALL, OF WHAT EARTHLY GOOD ARE YOU...

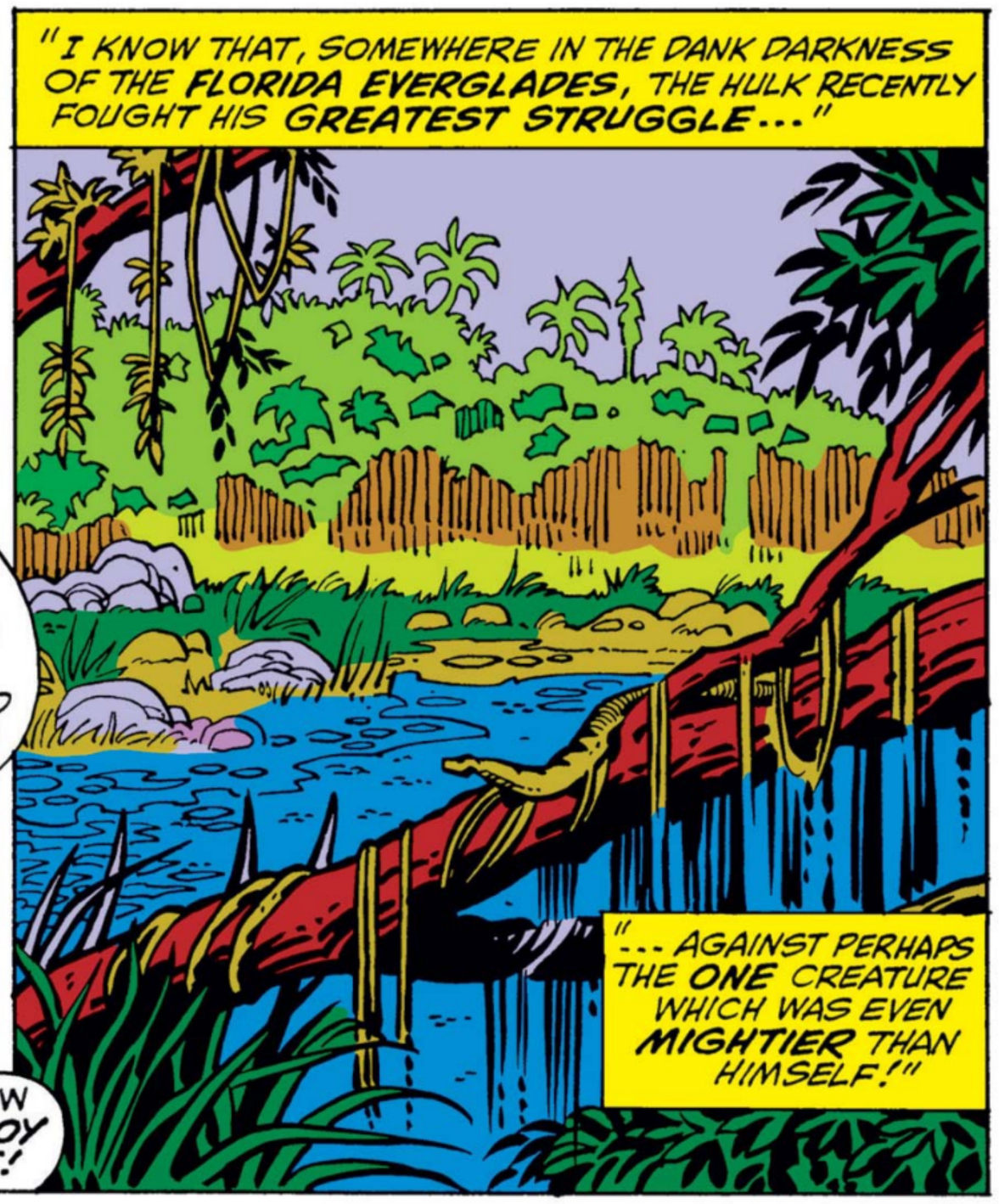

... NOW THAT YOU HAVE FULFILLED THE PURPOSE OF...
THE LEADER!
AND NOW, FOR THE BENEFIT OF A PERHAPS PERPLEXED READERSHIP, LET US SEE IF WE CAN DELVE INTO THE MASSIVE MUTANT BRAIN OF THE SINISTER LEADER... AND LEARN THE WHY AND WHEREFORE OF THIS UNHEARD-OF TRANSFORMATION... SO FRAUGHT WITH MENACE FOR THE UNSUSPECTING BRUCE BANNER..!


WE RELIVE ONCE MORE THOSE MOMENTS WHEN AN UNCANNY VESSEL HAD SCANNED THE UNSUSPECTING BRUCE BANNER...
...THEN LANDED SECRETLY NEARBY, TO DISGORGE A VERY UNLIKELY CARGO...!
THIS BATTERED TRUCK WILL SUIT MY PURPOSE WELL!
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN SIMPLICITY ITSELF TO HAVE BLASTED BRUCE BANNER BACK THERE!
BUT, THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN TOO EASY... AND NO REAL VICTORY!
FOR, IT IS THE HULK WHO IS THE MUTANT LIKE MYSELF... WHO HAS FOUGHT ME LONGEST AND HARDEST!
STILL, EVERY CREATURE ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH HAS... A FATAL WEAKNESS!
I SHALL LEARN THE HULK'S WEAKNESS... FROM NONE OTHER THAN BRUCE BANNER HIMSELF!
THEN, AND ONLY THEN, SHALL I WREAK MY REVENGE!
AND NOW...
BANNER KNOWS ME AS THE LEADER ... HATES ME AS MUCH AS DOES THE HULK!
BUT, HE DOES NOT KNOW OR HATE... THE ONE I WAS... THE ONE I SHALL BECOME AGAIN!
AH... I CAN FEEL IT... I'M CHANGING... TURNING ALL OF MY VAST MUTANT POWER INWARD... UPON MYSELF!
BUT, THE PAIN... I CAN'T STAND THE PAIN ANY LONGER...!
WAIT! THE PAIN HAS STOPPED NOW!
I'M FREE... FREE TO DO... WHATEVER I WANT TO DO!
THE ONLY THING IS... WHAT DO I WANT TO DO?
I CAN REMEMBER MY NAME... THAT I'M SAM STERNS... JUST ANOTHER WORKER!
BUT WHAT AM I DOING HERE... IN THE MIDDLE OF THE BOONDOCKS?
GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE... FIND OUT WHO I AM... I MUST!
...YES, MY PLAN HAD WORKED, ONLY TOO WELL!
I HAD RECALLED THAT I HAD ANOTHER IDENTITY... JUST AS THE HULK HAD ONCE BEEN DR. BRUCE BANNER!
BUT, IN MY ELATION, I FORGOT ONE ALL-IMPORTANT FACTOR...!
6


"BANNER HAD BEEN A GENIUS IN HIS FORMER LIFE--- WHILE I HAD BEEN BUT A COMMON LABORER, ONE OF THE FACELESS MEN WORKING IN A CHEMICAL RESEARCH PLANT---!"*
* AS RECORDED IN TALES TO ASTONISH #63!..STAN.

"TRUE, A FREAK EXPLOSION BOMBARDED ME WITH MYSTERIOUS GAMMA RAYS--- THE SAME FORCE WHICH HAD TURNED BANNER INTO THE STEEL-MUSCLED HULK!"


AND IT WAS THOSE RAYS WHICH HAD GIVEN BIRTH TO THE LEADER--- POSSESSOR OF A BRAIN AS MATCHLESS AS THE HULK'S BRAWN!
YET, WHEN I BECAME SAM STERNS ONCE MORE, HIS PUNY MIND COULD NOT CONTAIN ALL THE EVIL WHICH LURKS WITHIN THE BRAIN OF THE LEADER!
THUS, SAM STERNS BECAME --- THE VICTIM OF SELECTIVE AMNESIA!
STILL, MY POWERFUL SUPER-EGO WAS ABLE TO GUIDE STERNS--- UNTIL HE BUNGLINGLY LEARNED WHAT I WANTED TO KNOW!
THEN, IT WAS A SIMPLE MATTER TO INDUCE A HEADACHE---AND RE-POSSESS HIS BODY WE SHARE!
AND NOW, I KNOW ENOUGH TO DESTROY THE HULK---AT LAST!

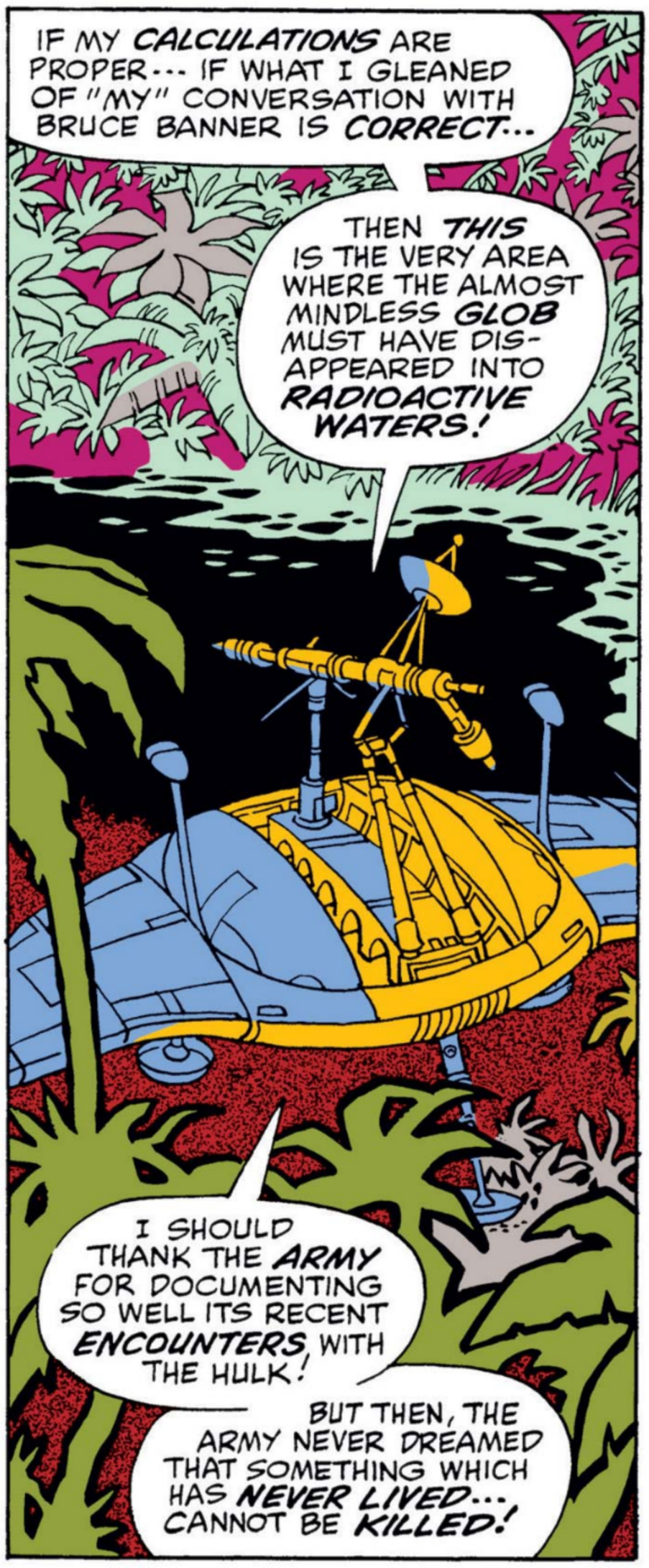

"I KNOW THAT, SOMEWHERE IN THE DANK DARKNESS OF THE FLORIDA EVERGLADES, THE HULK RECENTLY FOUGHT HIS GREATEST STRUGGLE---"
"--- AGAINST PERHAPS THE ONE CREATURE WHICH WAS EVEN MIGHTIER THAN HIMSELF!"

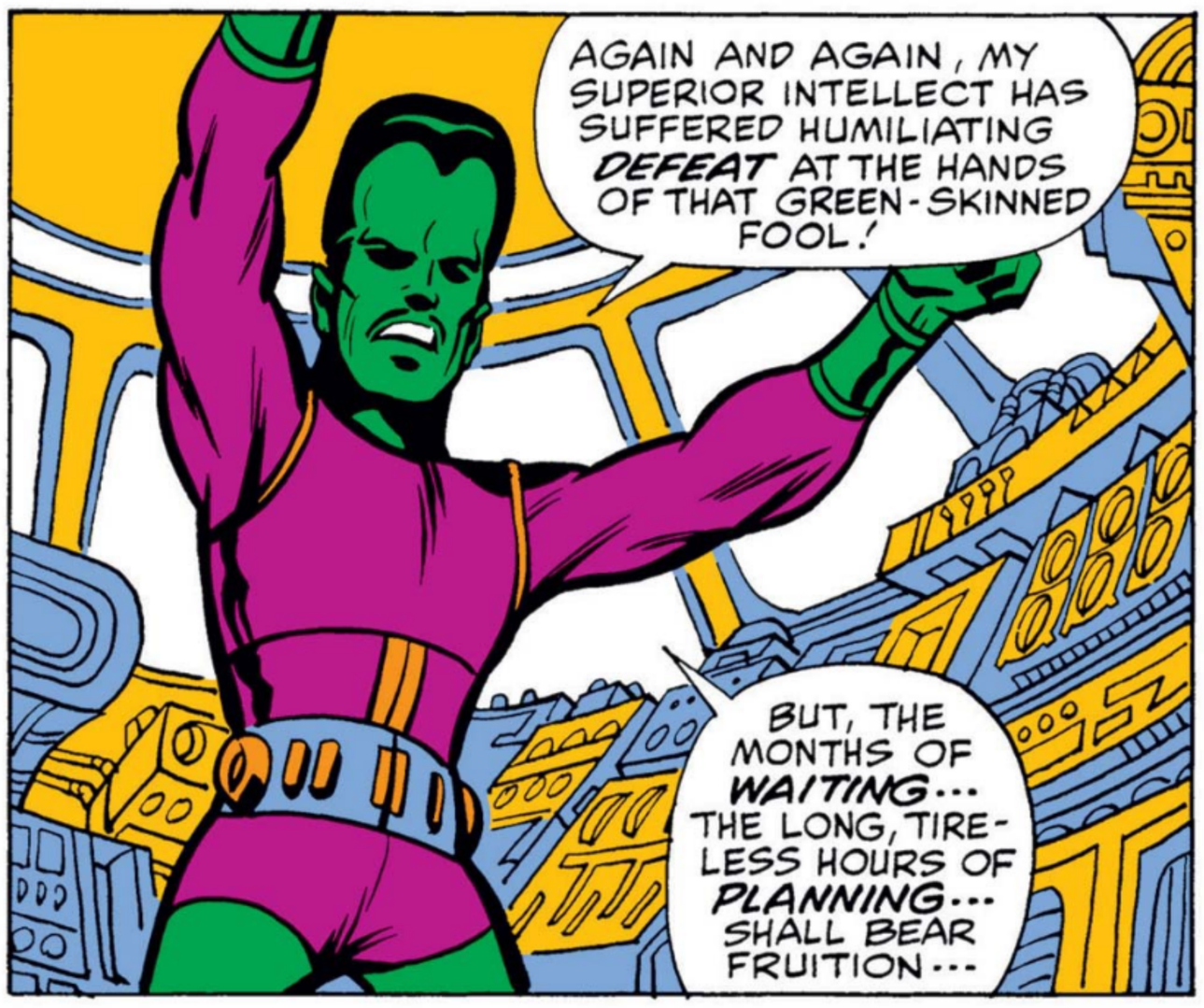
"IF MY SUSPICIONS ARE CORRECT, THE UNIQUE CONDITIONS WHICH SEEM TO HAVE PRODUCED THE GLOB CAN BE RE-CREATED---"
"--- AND, IF SO, THEN THE GLOB SHALL KILL THE HULK--- FOR THE GREATER GLORY OF THE LEADER!"

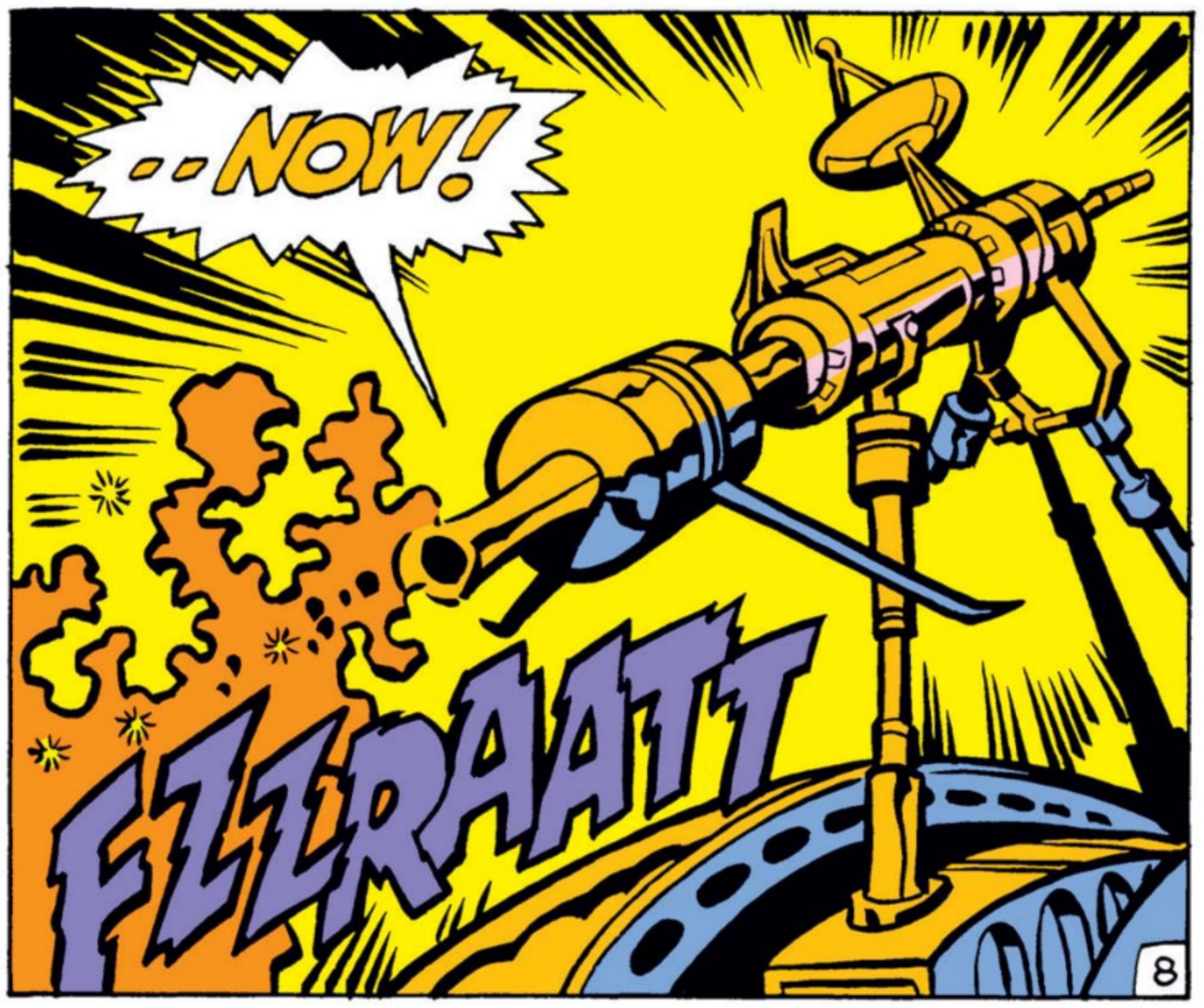
AND SO, NOT LONG AFTERWARD, AN EERIE SHADOW IS CAST AT HIGH NOON UPON THE FACE OF THE SILENT EVERGLADES---

A METALLIC MANTA-RAY COMES FLOATING DOWN, WITH OMINOUS PURPOSE, FROM THE SEA-BLUE SKY---

--- AND COMES TO REST AT WATER'S EDGE---!

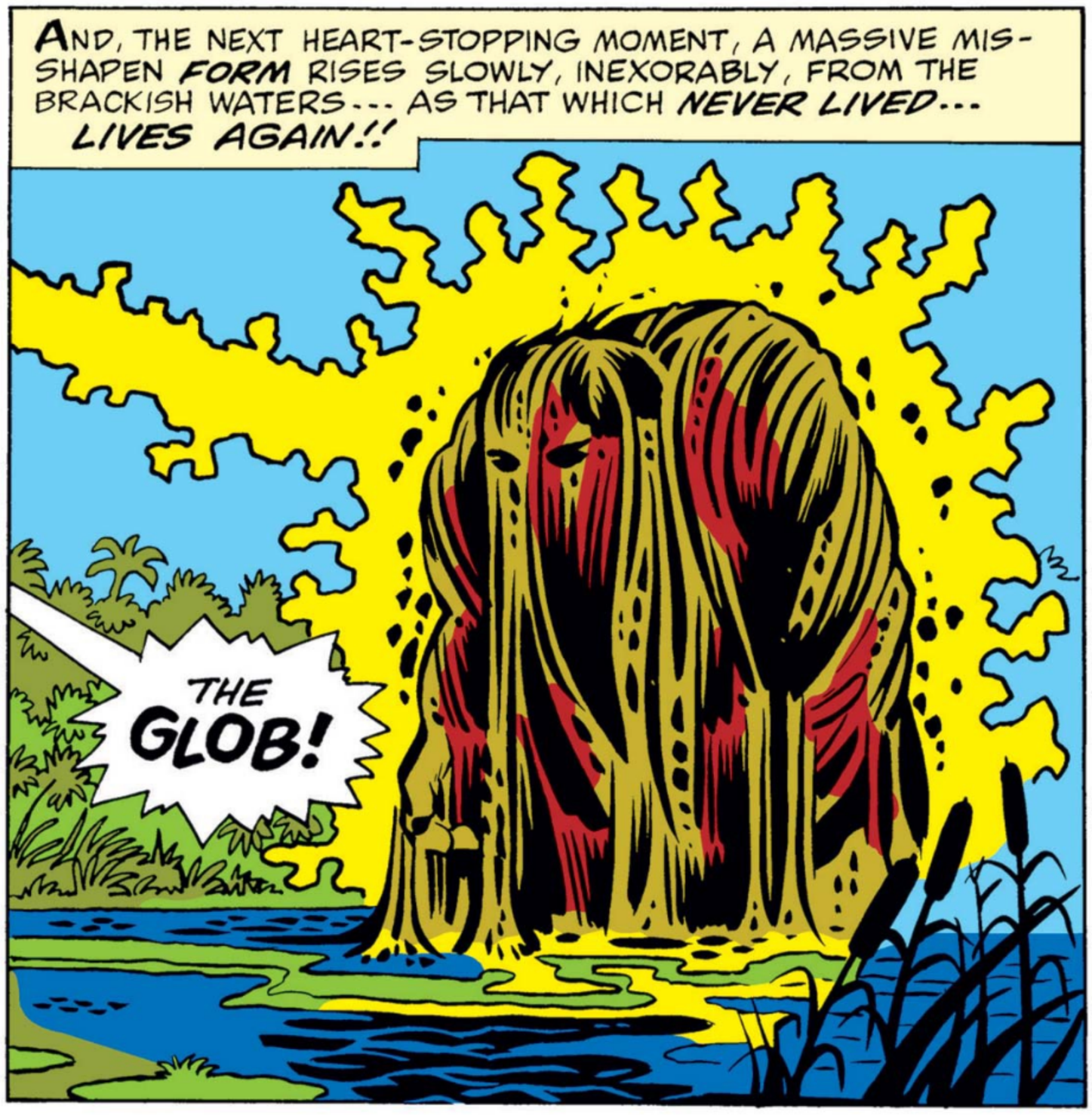

IF MY CALCULATIONS ARE PROPER--- IF WHAT I GLEANED OF "MY" CONVERSATION WITH BRUCE BANNER IS CORRECT...
THEN THIS IS THE VERY AREA WHERE THE ALMOST MINDLESS GLOB MUST HAVE DISAPPEARED INTO RADIOACTIVE WATERS!
I SHOULD THANK THE ARMY FOR DOCUMENTING SO WELL ITS RECENT ENCOUNTERS WITH THE HULK!
BUT THEN, THE ARMY NEVER DREAMED THAT SOMETHING WHICH HAS NEVER LIVED... CANNOT BE KILLED!

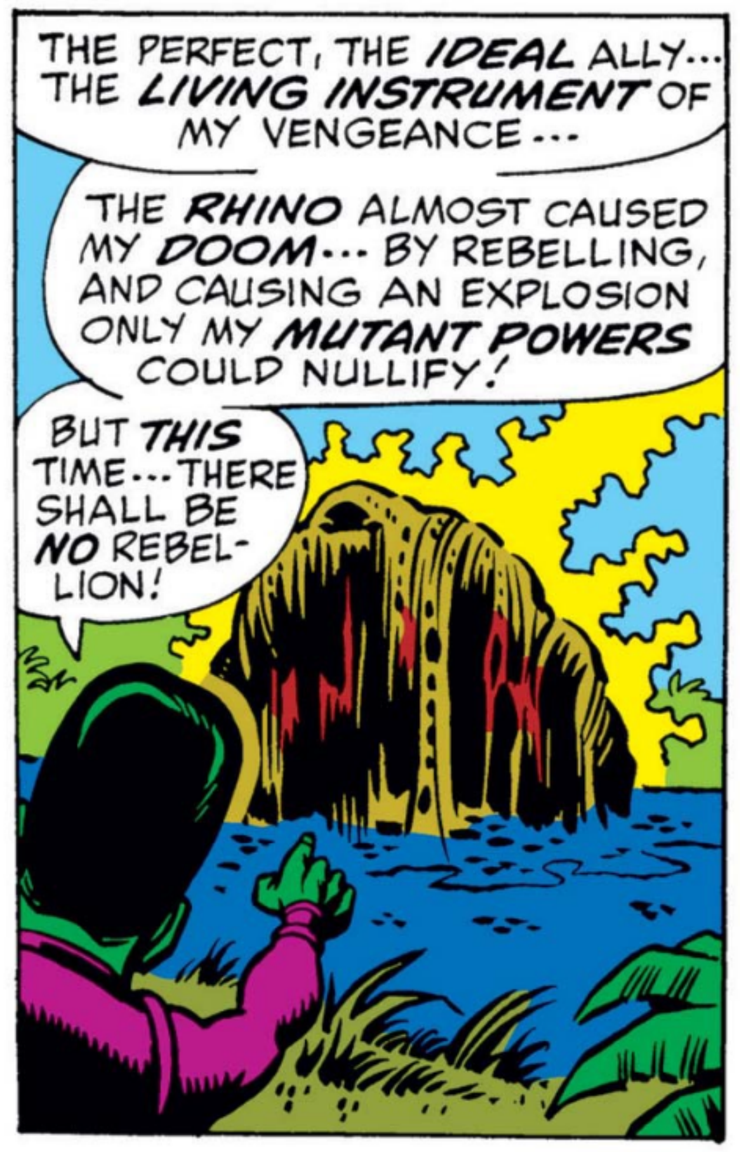

AGAIN AND AGAIN, MY SUPERIOR INTELLECT HAS SUFFERED HUMILIATING DEFEAT AT THE HANDS OF THAT GREEN-SKINNED FOOL!
BUT, THE MONTHS OF WAITING... THE LONG, TIRELESS HOURS OF PLANNING... SHALL BEAR FRUITION---


--NOW!
FZZRAATT

THEN, BELOW THE PLACID SURFACE OF THE SEEMINGLY STAGNANT SWAMP... IN THAT MICRO-COSMIC WORLD WHICH NONE BUT THE MOST POWERFUL MICROSCOPE MAY HOPE TO SEE---
... SMALL, LONG-DORMANT PARTICLES COMBINE WITH EACH OTHER... BUILD INTO LARGER, EVER MORE COMPLEX FORMS...

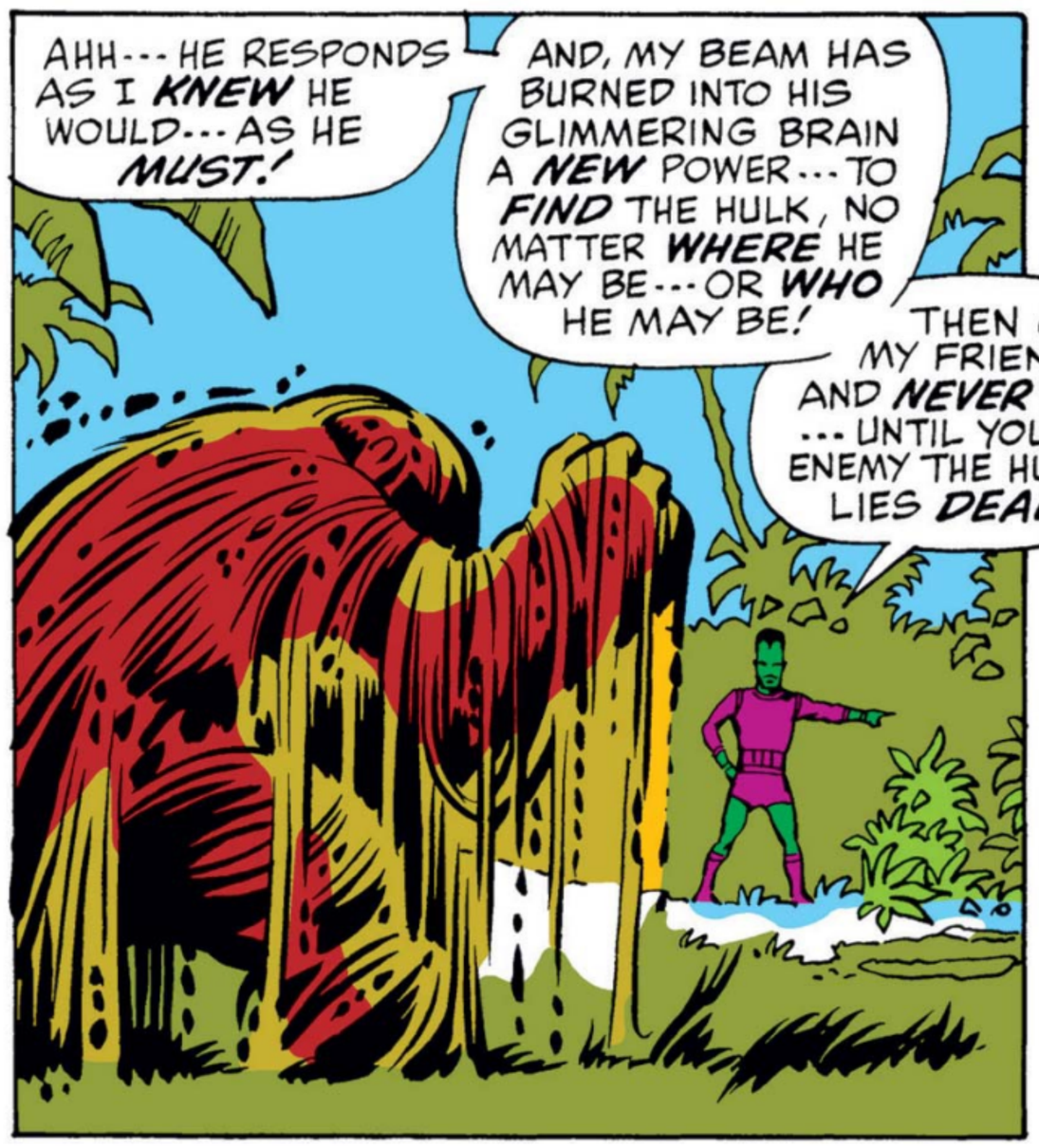
UNTIL...
THE SWAMP SEETHES, LIKE A THING ALIVE!
THE MOMENT OF FINAL TRIUMPH IS AT HAND!
ZZZZZZZZ

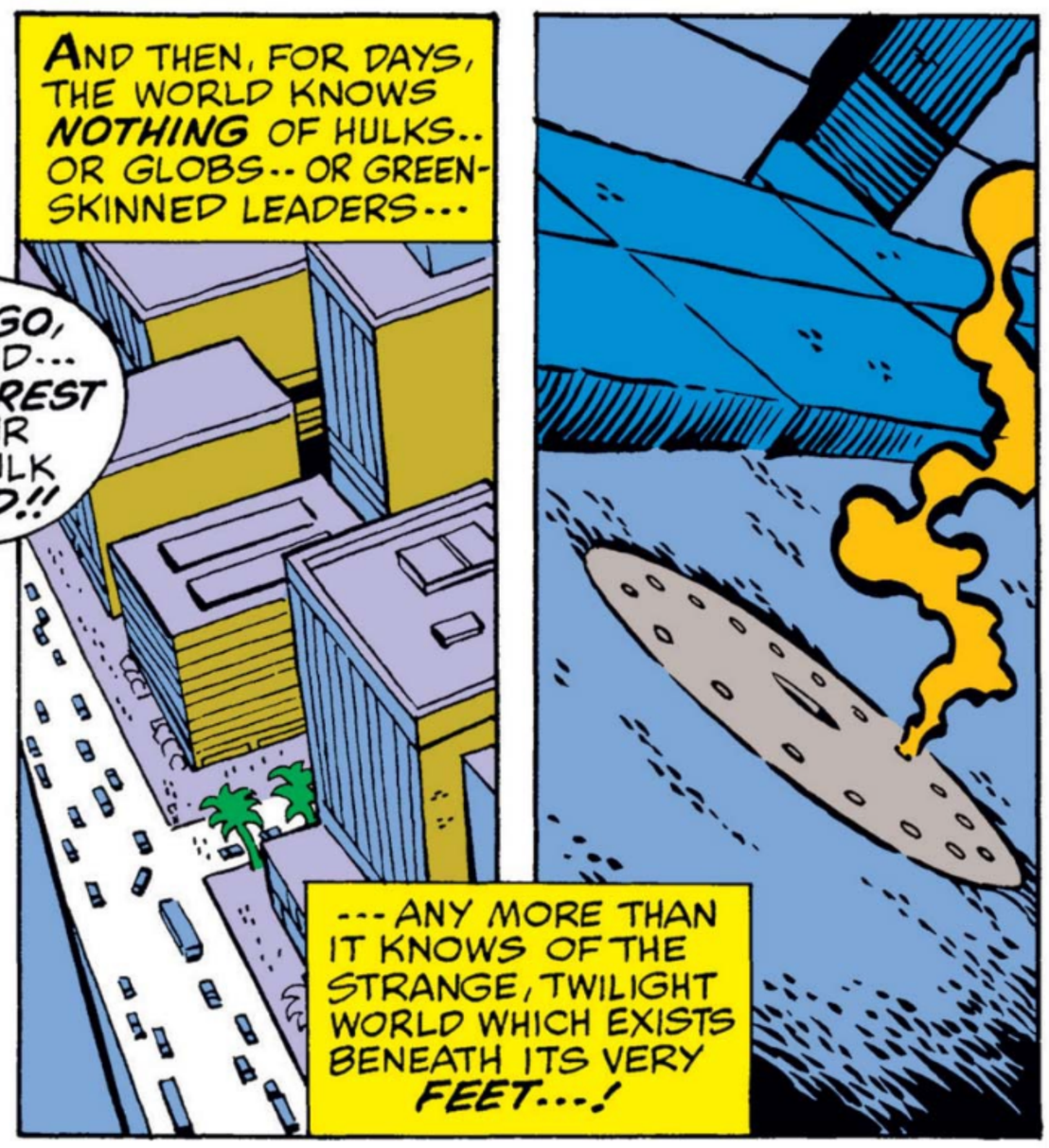

AND, THE NEXT HEART-STOPPING MOMENT, A MASSIVE MIS-SHAPEN FORM RISES SLOWLY, INEXORABLY, FROM THE BRACKISH WATERS... AS THAT WHICH NEVER LIVED... LIVES AGAIN!!
THE GLOB!


THE PERFECT, THE IDEAL ALLY... THE LIVING INSTRUMENT OF MY VENGEANCE...
THE RHINO ALMOST CAUSED MY DOOM... BY REBELLING, AND CAUSING AN EXPLOSION ONLY MY MUTANT POWERS COULD NULLIFY!
BUT THIS TIME... THERE SHALL BE NO REBELLION!

LISTEN, VOICELESS MONSTROSITY... AS YOU STAND THERE AMIDST THE MIRE AND CONFUSION!
SEE THE IMAGE WHICH THE LEADER BURNS INTO YOUR BRAIN SUCH AS IT IS!

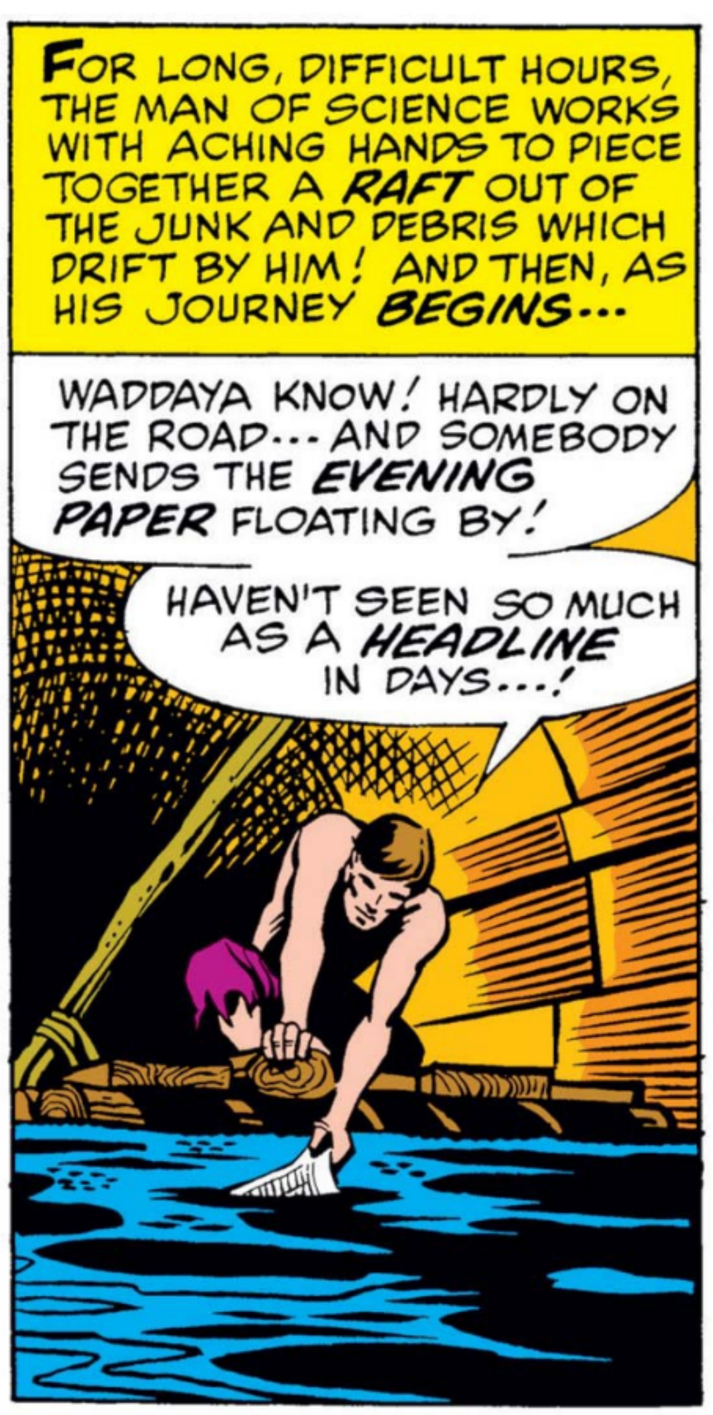
SEE THE HATED FIGURE OF THE HULK... HOLDING THE GIRL YOU SOUGHT ACROSS THE SWAMP... THE GIRL YOU HAD RESISTED DEATH ITSELF TO RESCUE!
THE HULK MENACES THE GIRL, MY FRIEND... AND ONLY YOU CAN SAVE HER!

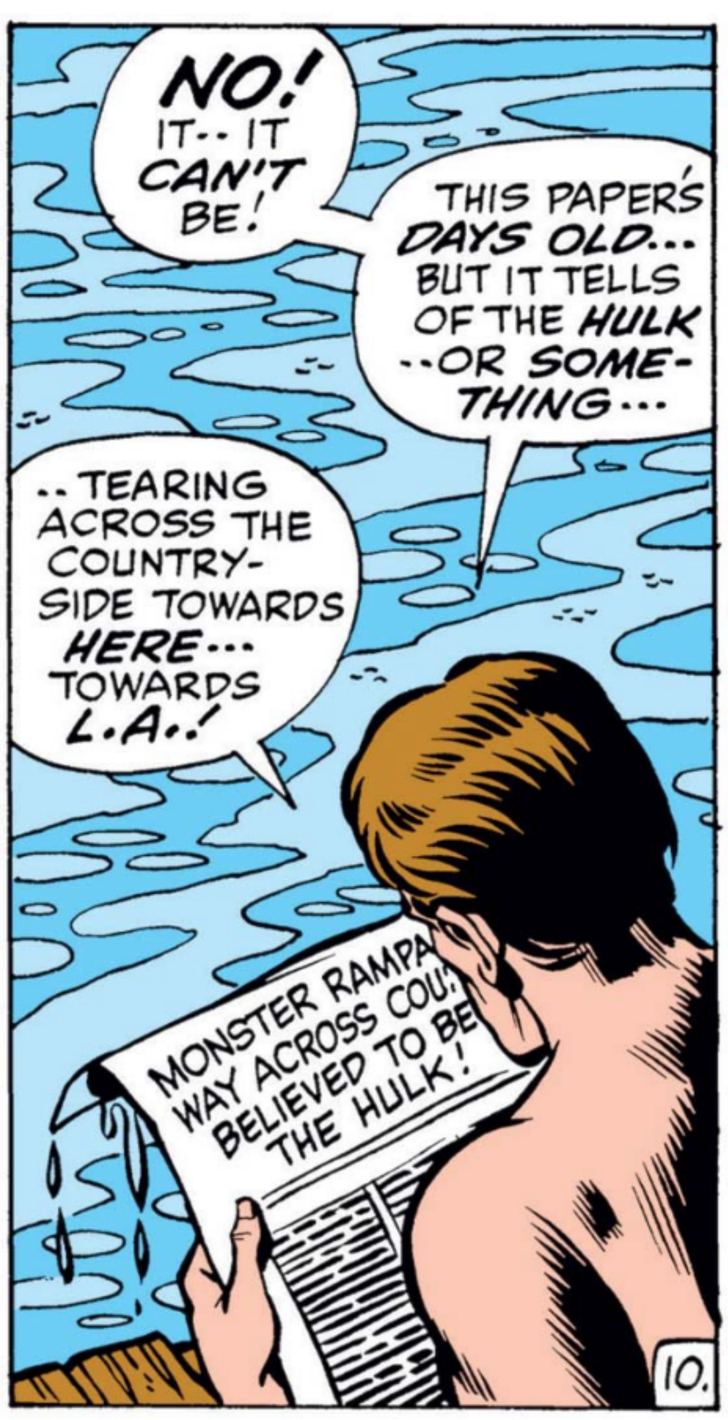

AHH--- HE RESPONDS AS I KNEW HE WOULD--- AS HE MUST!
AND, MY BEAM HAS BURNED INTO HIS GLIMMERING BRAIN A NEW POWER--- TO FIND THE HULK, NO MATTER WHERE HE MAY BE--- OR WHO HE MAY BE!
THEN GO, MY FRIEND--- AND NEVER REST --- UNTIL YOUR ENEMY THE HULK LIES DEAD!!


AND THEN, FOR DAYS, THE WORLD KNOWS NOTHING OF HULKS.. OR GLOBS.. OR GREEN-SKINNED LEADERS---
--- ANY MORE THAN IT KNOWS OF THE STRANGE, TWILIGHT WORLD WHICH EXISTS BENEATH ITS VERY FEET---!

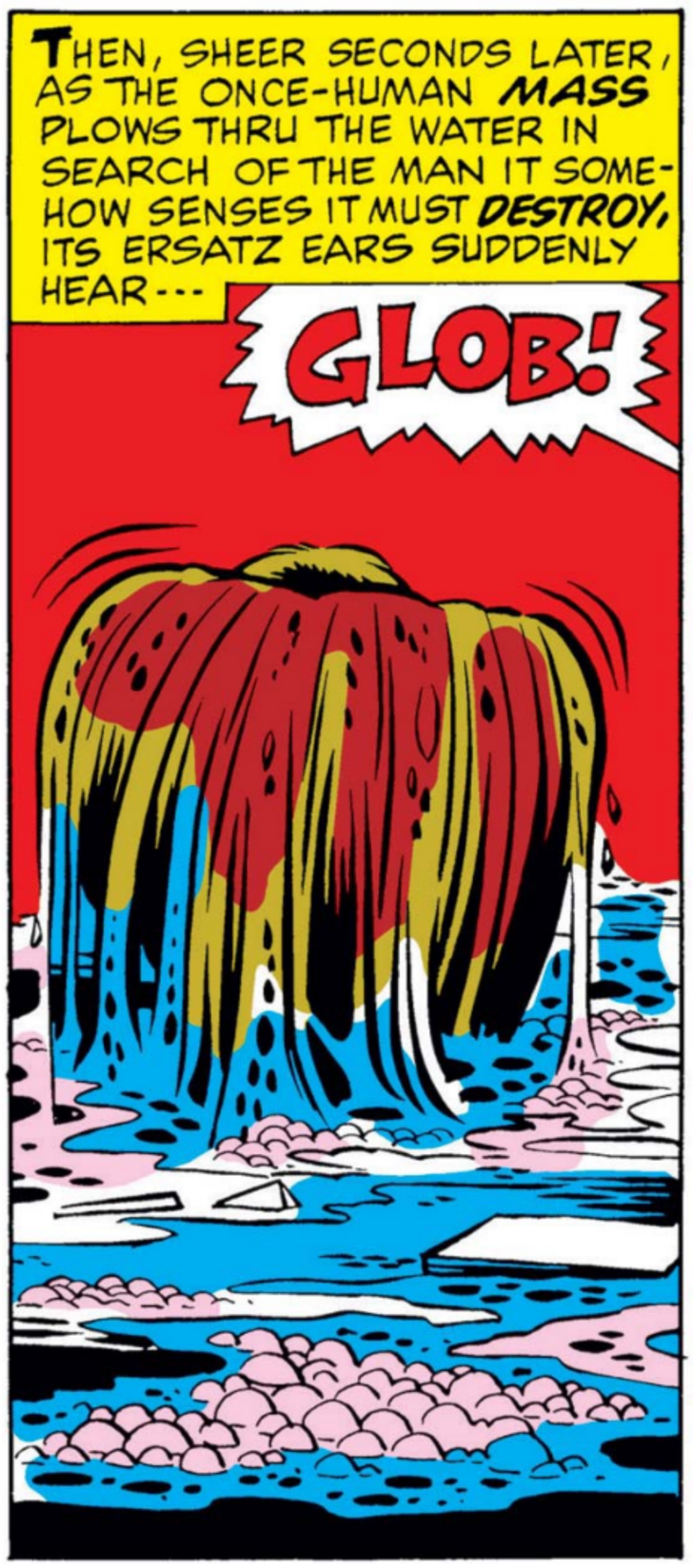
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANY MORE!
I STILL HAVE SUPPLIES ENOUGH.. STRENGTH ENOUGH.. TO GO ON HIDING DOWN HERE!
BUT THE LONELINESS--- THE ENDLESS HOURS OF WAITING--- OF HIDING---
THEY'RE EVEN WORSE THAN DODGING THE ARMY ABOVE!

THERE'S ONLY ONE ANSWER--- SOMETHING I SHOULD HAVE TRIED LONG AGO!
I'VE GOT TO SNEAK THRU THE CORDON AROUND L.A.--- AND TRY TO REACH BETTY!
AND I CAN ONLY DO THAT--- BY BUILDING A MAKESHIFT RAFT!


FOR LONG, DIFFICULT HOURS, THE MAN OF SCIENCE WORKS WITH ACHING HANDS TO PIECE TOGETHER A RAFT OUT OF THE JUNK AND DEBRIS WHICH DRIFT BY HIM! AND THEN, AS HIS JOURNEY BEGINS---
WADDAYA KNOW! HARDLY ON THE ROAD--- AND SOMEBODY SENDS THE EVENING PAPER FLOATING BY!
HAVEN'T SEEN SO MUCH AS A HEADLINE IN DAYS---!

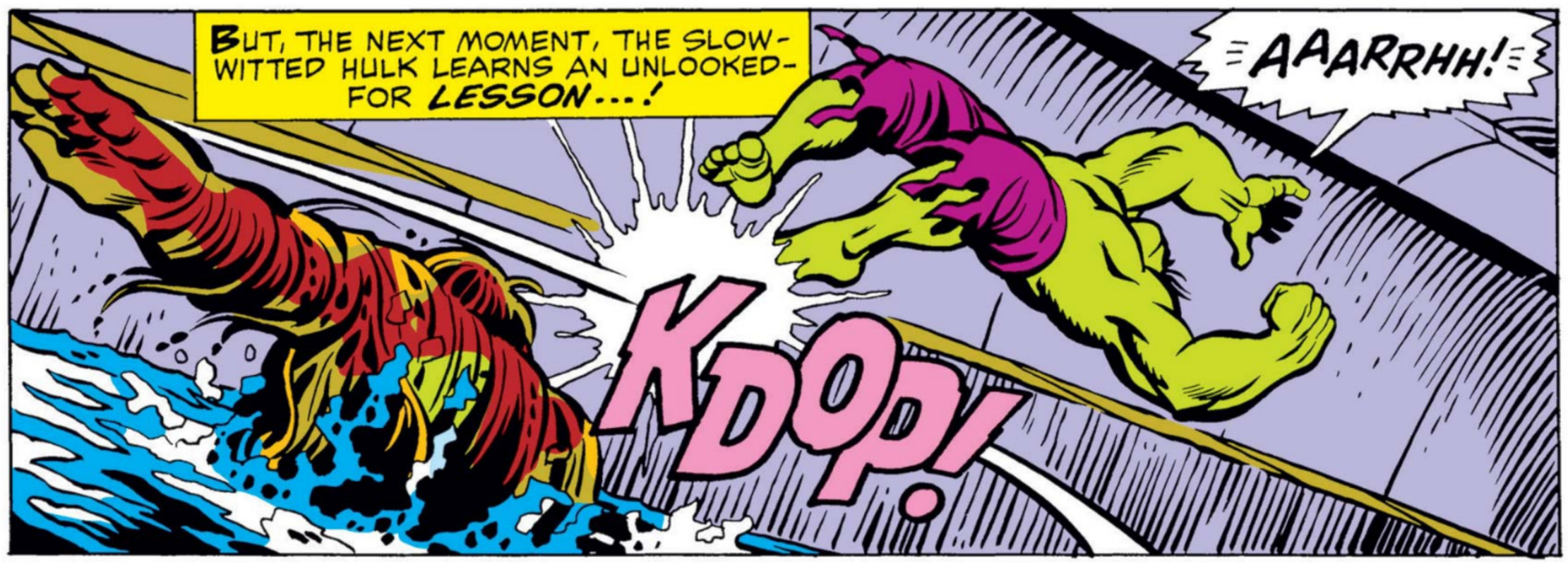

NO! IT.. IT CAN'T BE!
THIS PAPER'S DAYS OLD... BUT IT TELLS OF THE HULK ..OR SOMETHING---
..TEARING ACROSS THE COUNTRYSIDE TOWARDS HERE--- TOWARDS L.A..!
MONSTER RAMPA WAY ACROSS COU BELIEVED TO BE THE HULK!

AND WORSE... WHAT IT UNKNOWINGLY HINTS AT IS TOO AMAZING, TOO HORRIBLE TO BE BELIEVED!
EYEWITNESSES DESCRIBE A GREAT, SHAMBLING CREATURE ---HUMAN IN FORM, BUT MONSTROUS IN SIZE ---SMASHING HIS WAY ACROSS THE COUNTRYSIDE BY NIGHT!
THE FIRST REPORT OF THE BEHEMOTH WAS IN FLORIDA... ON THE VERY EDGE OF THE EVERGLADES THEMSELVES!
YET, IF THAT'S TRUE --THEN THERE'S ONLY ONE THING IT COULD BE---ONE MARAUDING MONSTROSITY!
THE GLOB!
SPLOOONSH!
THRA
IT CAN'T BE A MERE COINCIDENCE THAT THAT MONSTER IS HERE--- IT CAN'T BE!
IT'S COME HERE LOOKING FOR THE HULK--- TO WREAK SOME WEIRD, WARPED VENGEANCE THAT ONLY IT CAN UNDERSTAND!
ITS BLOW BARELY MISSED ME-- MAKING MY HEART POUND---MY PULSE POUND LIKE MAD!
AND THAT CAN MEAN--- ONLY ONE THING---!
11.


THEN, SHEER SECONDS LATER, AS THE ONCE-HUMAN MASS PLOWS THRU THE WATER IN SEARCH OF THE MAN IT SOMEHOW SENSES IT MUST DESTROY, ITS ERSATZ EARS SUDDENLY HEAR---
GLOB!

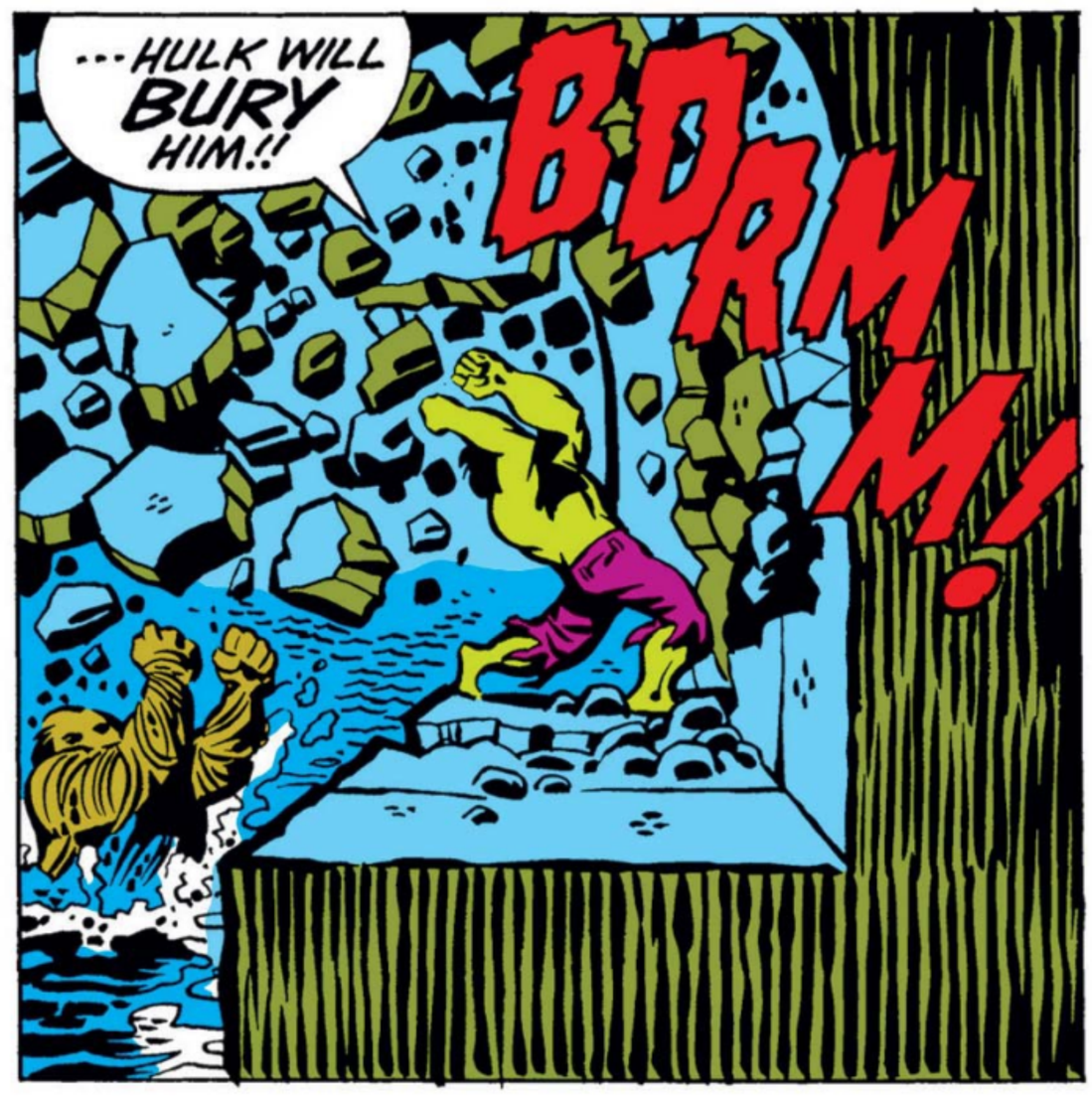
YOU HUNT FOR THE HULK...
AND YOU HAVE FOUND HIM!!

HULK WANTED TO BE FRIENDS WITH YOU BEFORE--- BUT YOU FOUGHT HIM---AND NOW---
UNNHH! FIST SINKS IN--- LIKE HITTING SPONGE!
12


BUT, THE NEXT MOMENT, THE SLOW-WITTED HULK LEARNS AN UNLOOKED-FOR LESSON---!
AAARRHH!
KDOP!

HULK CAN'T HURT IT--- BUT IT CAN HIT HULK!
THEN, HULK MUST FIND OTHER WAY TO STOP IT!
THINK, HULK! THINK OF WHAT YOU SHOULD DO!
WHY DOES HEAD ALWAYS HURT--- WHEN HULK TRIES TO THINK?
13.

WALL BEHIND HULK--- WALL MADE OUT OF CONCRETE!
IF HULK CAN'T HIT THE ONE WHO FIGHTS HIM---

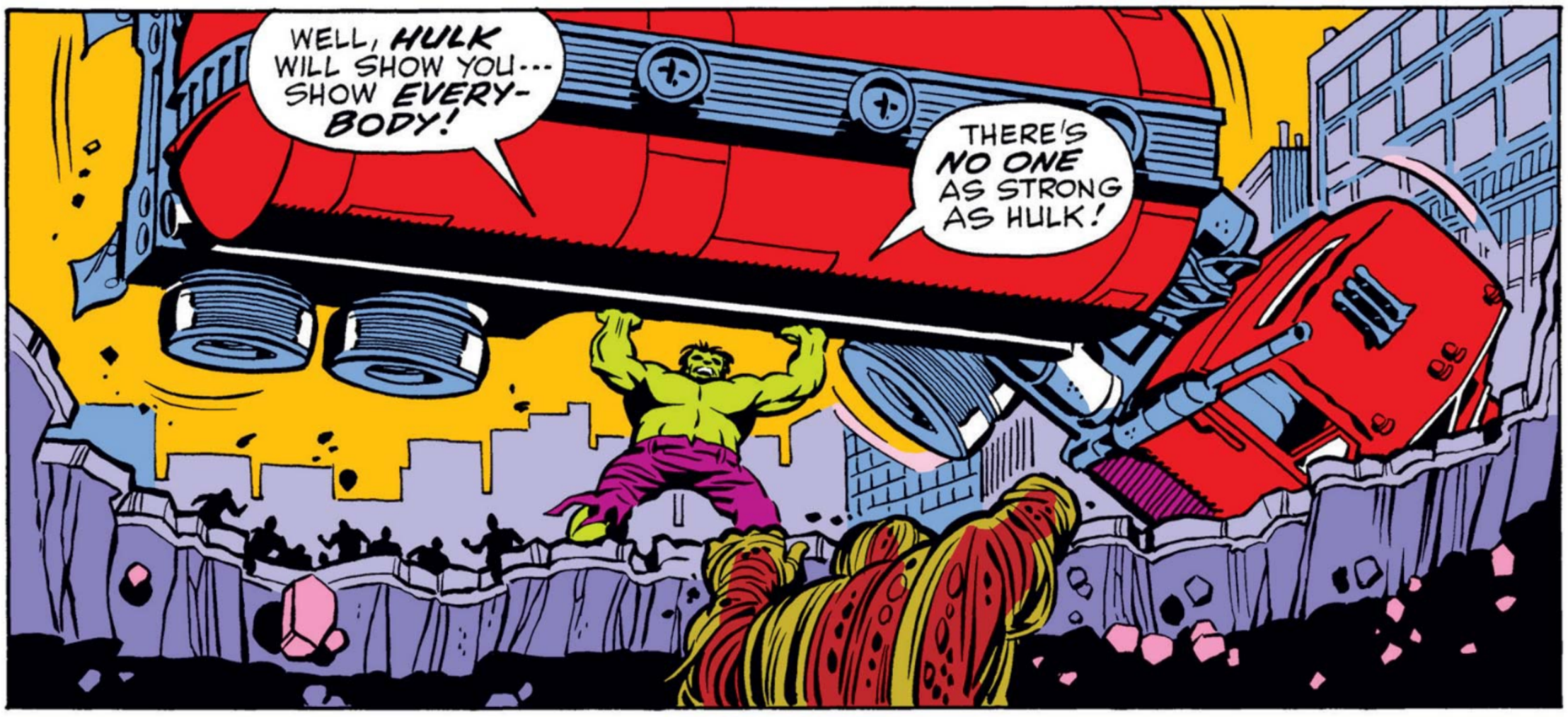

---HULK WILL BURY HIM!!
BDRM M!

BUT, IN HIS TOWERING RAGE, OUR GREEN GOLEM HAS RIPPED OUT TOO MUCH OF THE CONCRETE WHICH FORMS A CITY'S FOUNDATIONS---
--- AND AN ENTIRE SECTION OF STREET COLLAPSES ON BOTH OF THE COLOSSAL FIGURES WHO BATTLE IN A SUNLESS WORLD--!

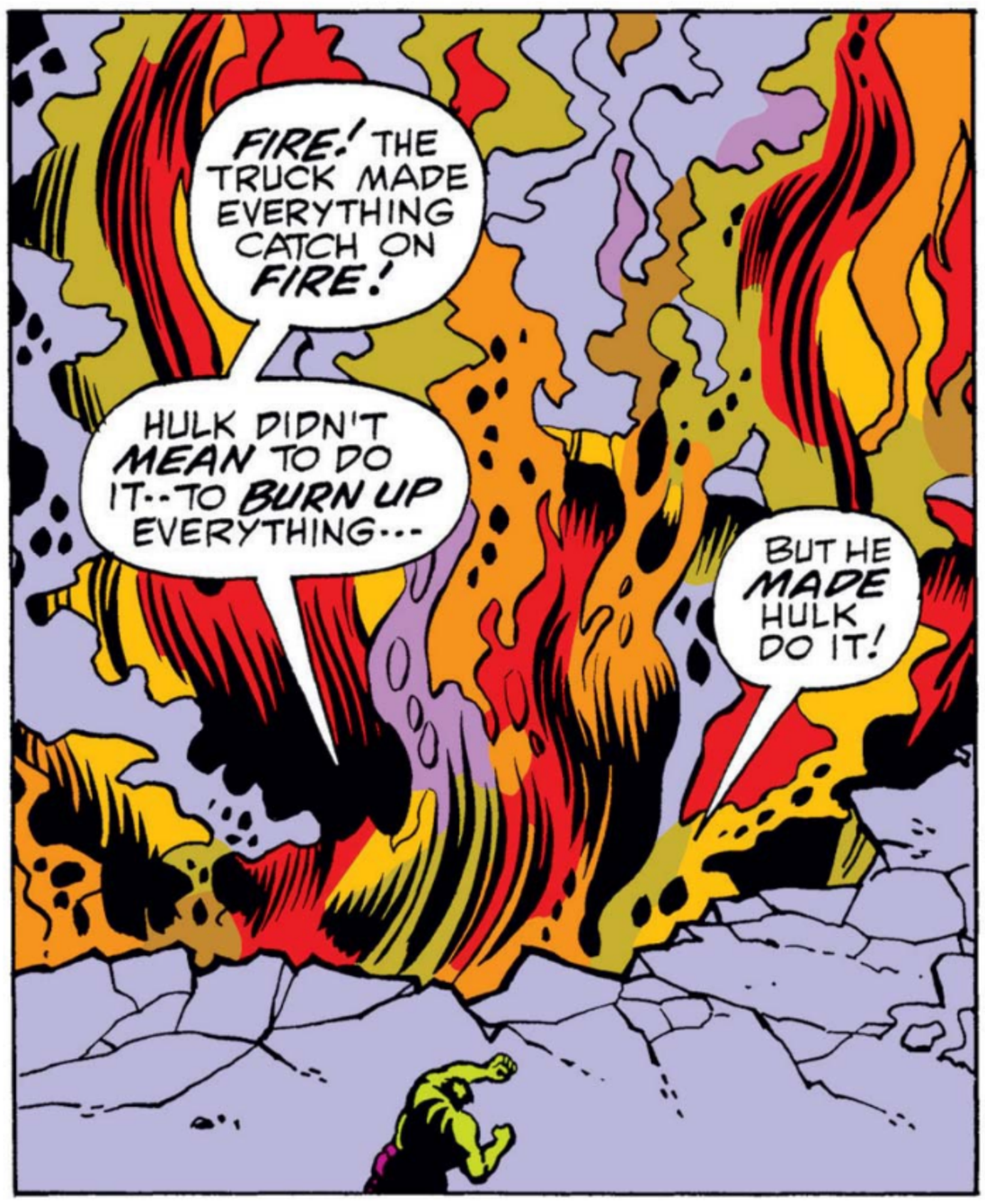
THE WHOLE STREET JUST--- FELL IN--- FOR NO REASON!
THERE'S GOT TO BE A REASON, FELLA-- FOR EVERY-THING!
WAIT! LOOK--- DOWN THERE IN THE WRECKAGE ---SOMETHING'S MOVING!

IT'S---THE HULK!
AND BEHIND HIM-- SOMETHING ---EVEN MORE HORRIFYING!
RUN! RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!

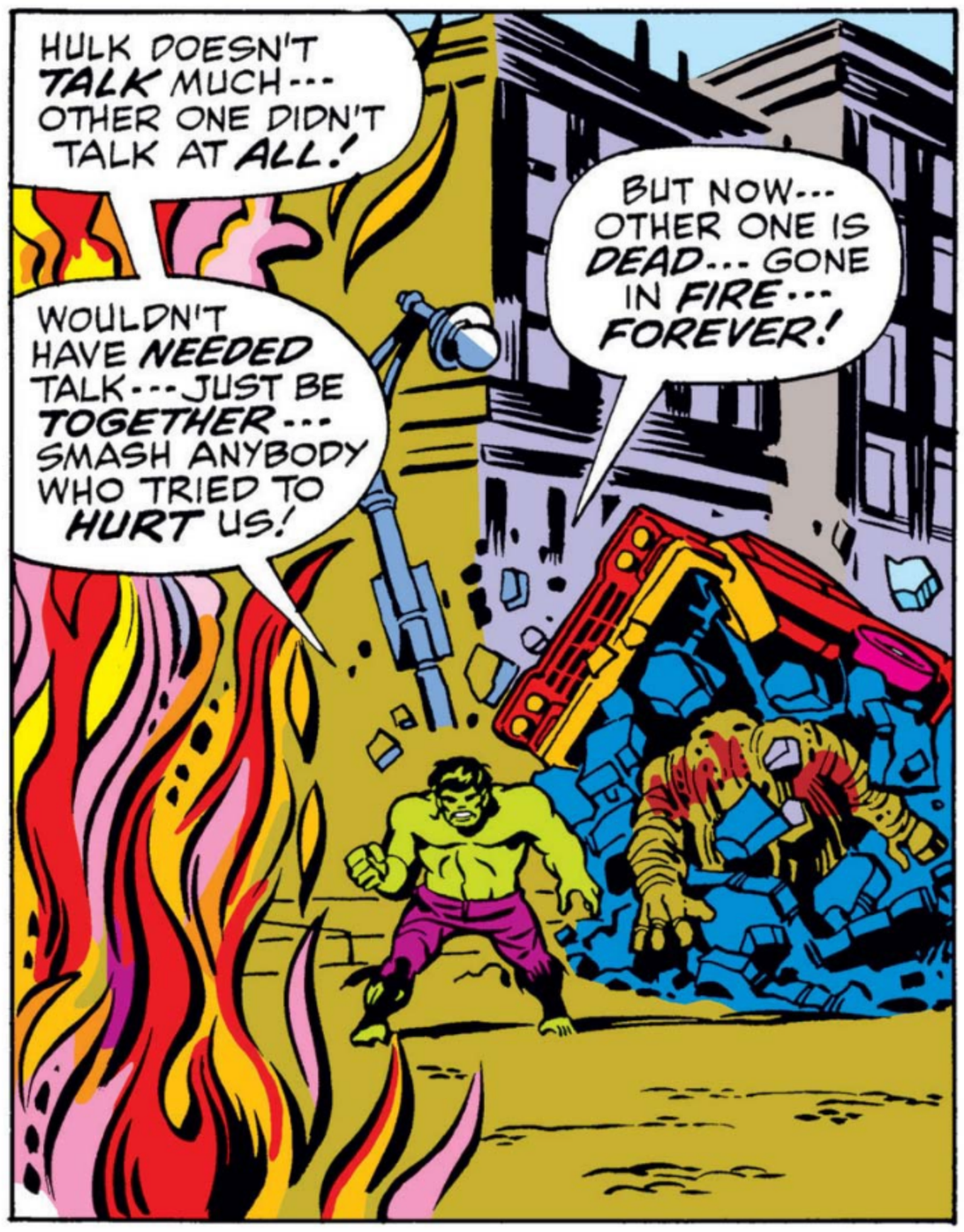
SO--- YOU DON'T STOP... YOU DON'T DIE ---JUST KEEP COMING AT HULK!
MAYBE YOU THINK YOU'RE STRONG AS HULK, HUH?


WELL, HULK WILL SHOW YOU--- SHOW EVERY-BODY!
THERE'S NO ONE AS STRONG AS HULK!

NO ONE!!
SHROOOSH!


FIRE! THE TRUCK MADE EVERYTHING CATCH ON FIRE!
HULK DIDN'T MEAN TO DO IT--TO BURN UP EVERYTHING---
BUT HE MADE HULK DO IT!

WISH HE HAD SAID SOMETHING --- TALKED TO HULK!
OTHER ONE DIDN'T HAVE TO FIGHT WITH HULK---NOT EVER!
HIM AND HULK SO MUCH ALIKE---
KKKRAAAKK
--SO MUCH ALIKE--!


HULK DOESN'T TALK MUCH--- OTHER ONE DIDN'T TALK AT ALL!
WOULDN'T HAVE NEEDED TALK---JUST BE TOGETHER--- SMASH ANYBODY WHO TRIED TO HURT US!
BUT NOW--- OTHER ONE IS DEAD--- GONE IN FIRE--- FOREVER!

"THAT'S IT, GLOB--- GRAB HIM FROM BEHIND WHILE HE'S GRUNTING LIKE A SAVAGE! YOU CANNOT HEAR ME, GLOB--- BUT YOU'RE DOING MY WORK--!"
WHAT--?

FIRE DIDN'T BURN HIM--- HE GOT AWAY FROM IT!
BUT, FIRE MIGHT HURT HULK--- MUST GET LOOSE!
CAN'T SEEM TO HIT HIM RIGHT--- HURT HIM---

BUT HULK MUST TRY!
THOG!

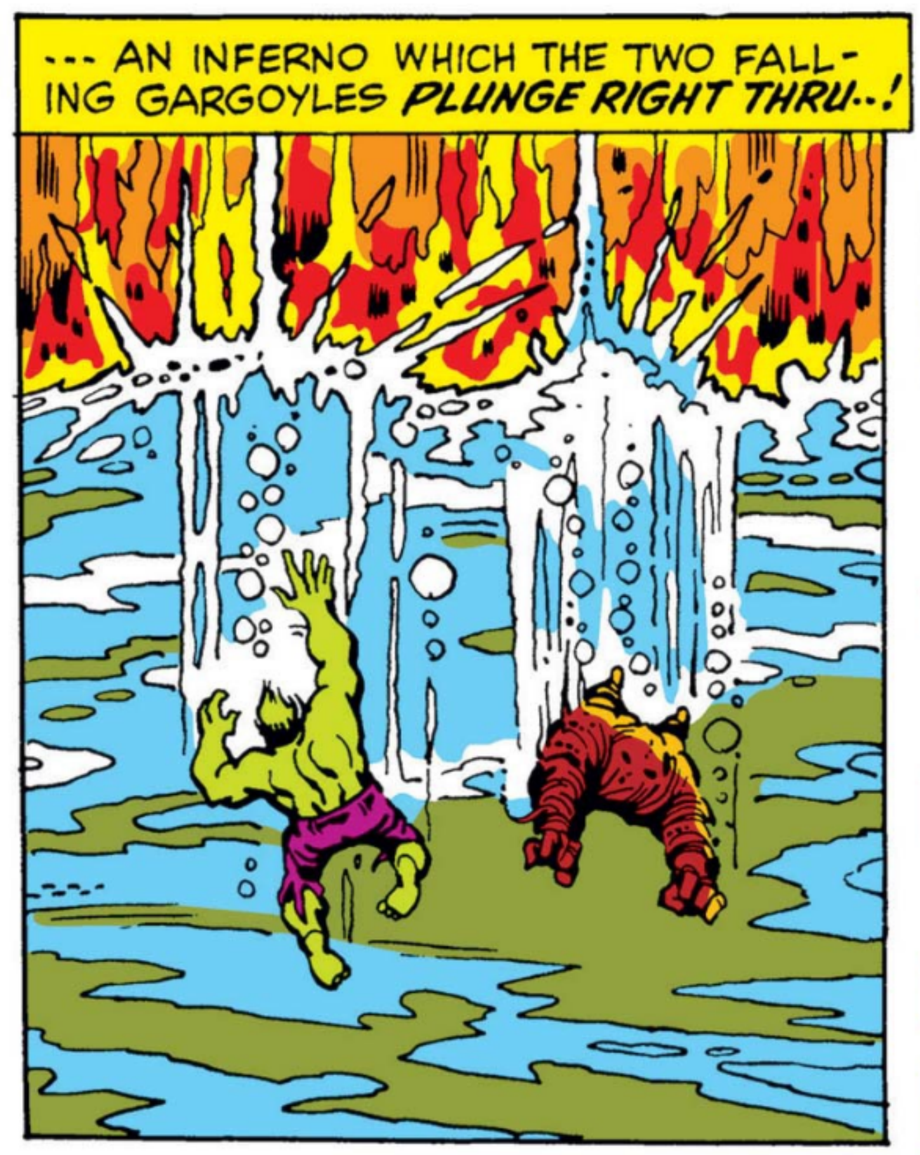
HULK HURT HIM THAT TIME!
SOME PARTS OF OTHER ONE ARE SOLID--- HULK CAN HIT THEM!
AND, AS LONG AS HULK CAN FIGHT---

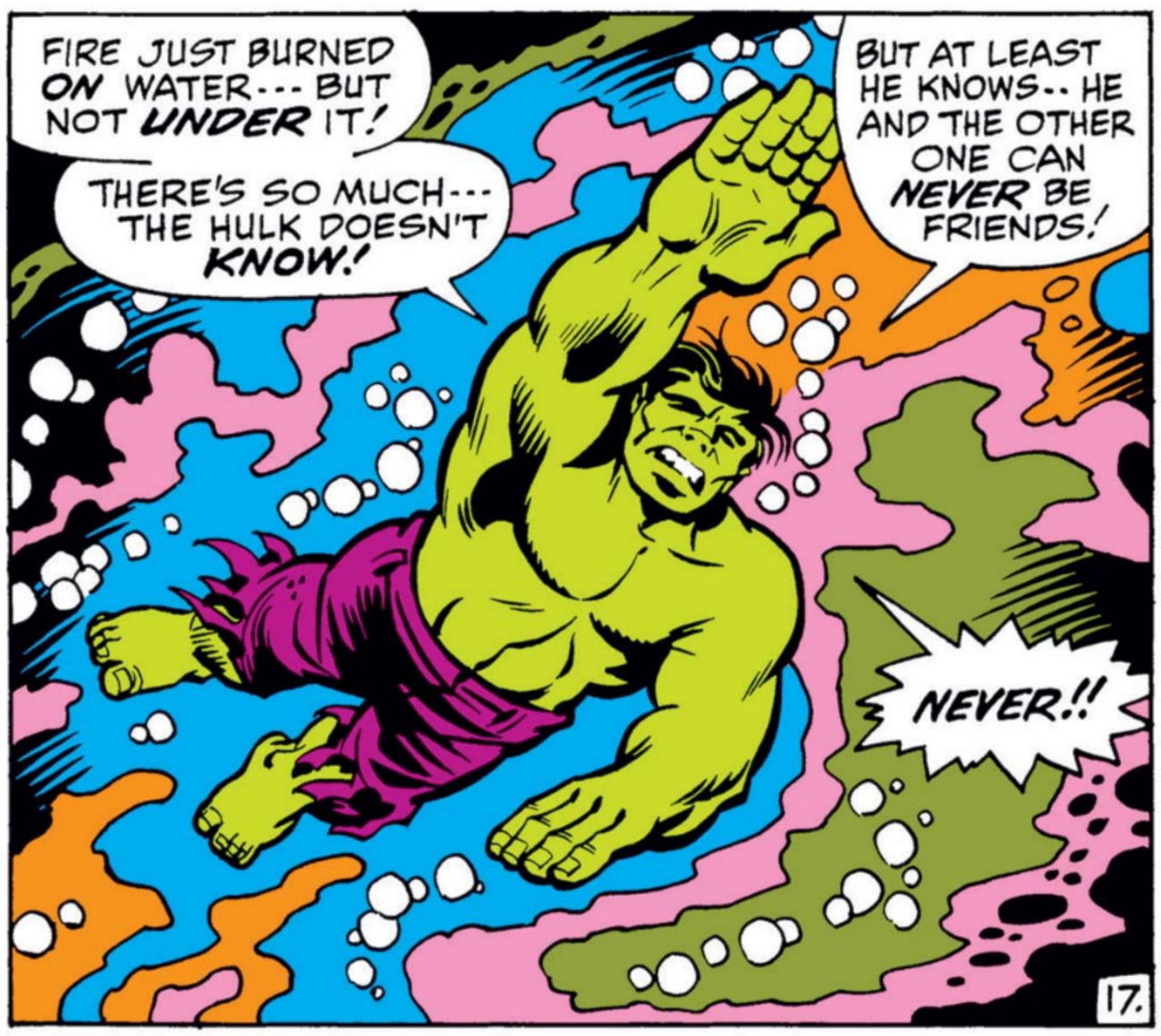
--HULK CAN WIN!
THRUUG!

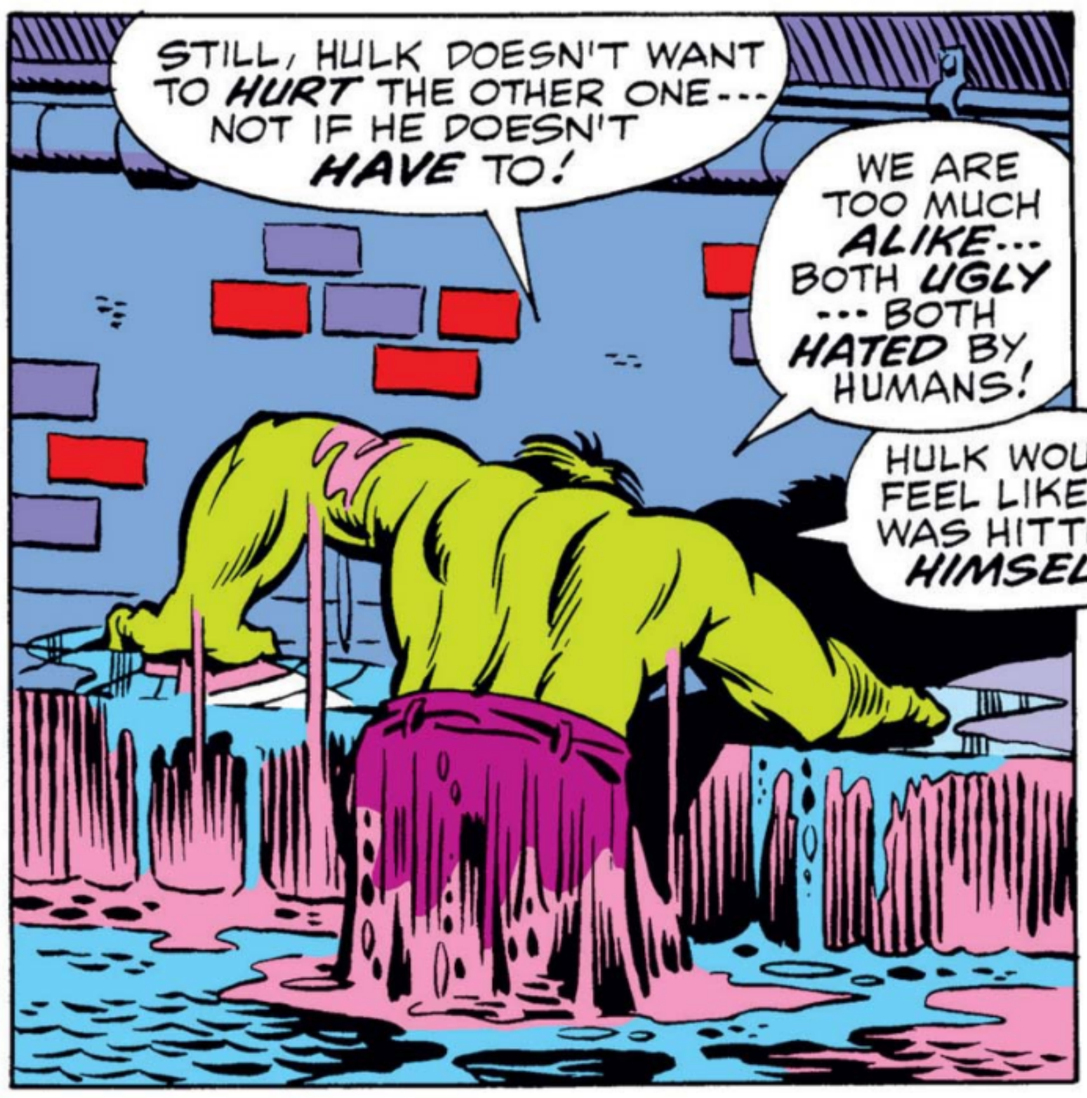
HE'S STUMBLING... ON EDGE OF FIRE... GOING TO FALL IN!
WHY ISN'T HULK HAPPY? WHY DOES HE STILL THINK OF OTHER ONE AS... FRIEND?
HERE ...TAKE HULK'S HAND... SO YOU WON'T FALL--!

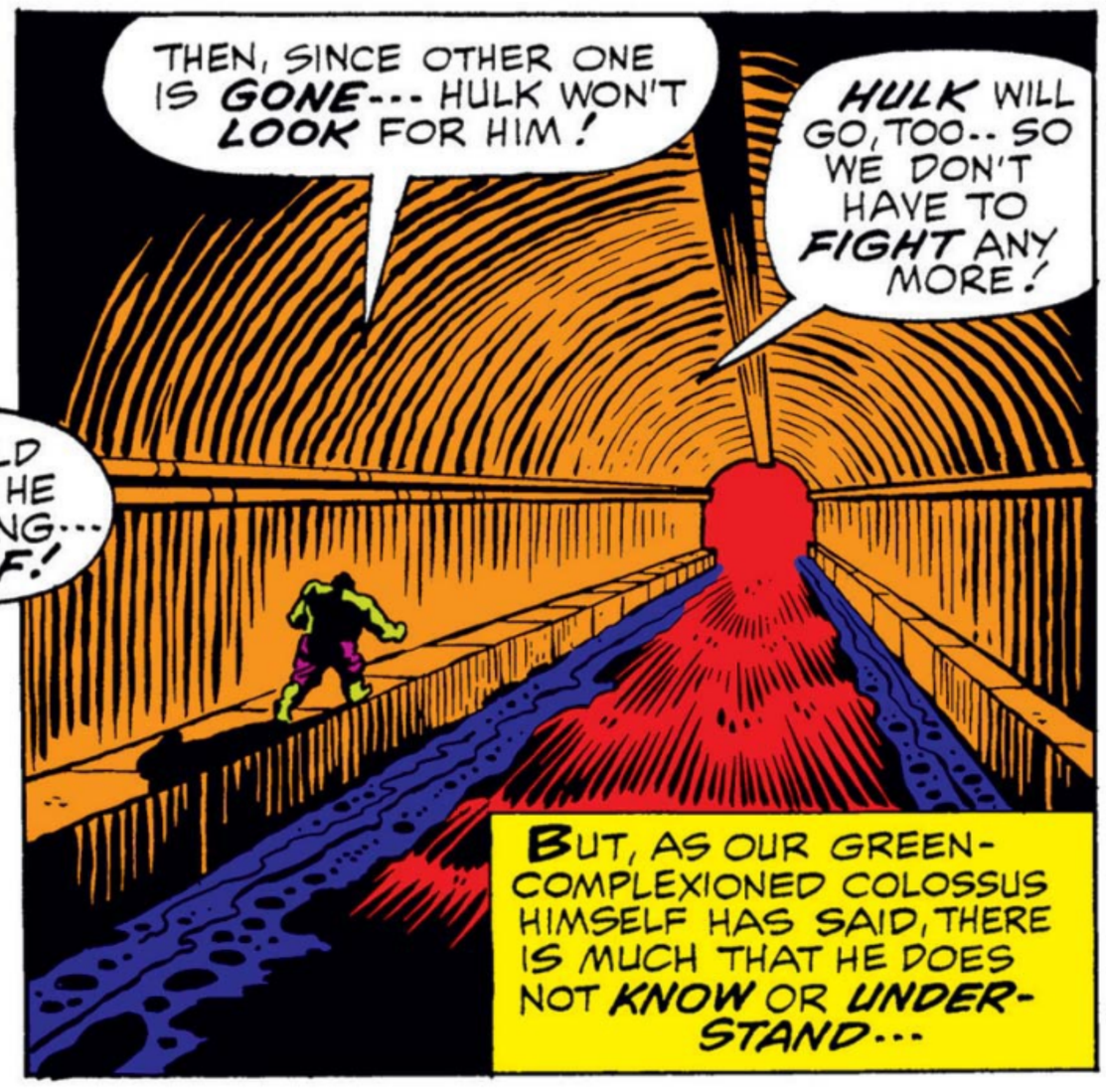
THEN, AS HIS TORTURED MIND REACTS TO AN EMOTION HE CANNOT UNDERSTAND... THE NEED FOR CONTACT, FOR COMMUNICATION WITH SOME BEING LIKE HIMSELF... THE GREEN GOLIATH REACHES OUT...

--AND INSTANTANEOUSLY, REGRETS HIS ACTION--!
HE PULLED HULK-- INTO FIRE WITH HIM--!
FOR, THE GLOB NOW KNOWS NO EMOTION--- EXCEPT THE DESIRE FOR REVENGE, WHICH RAGES HOT AS THE BLAZING OIL BELOW--!


--- AN INFERNO WHICH THE TWO FALLING GARGOYLES PLUNGE RIGHT THRU--!


FIRE JUST BURNED ON WATER--- BUT NOT UNDER IT!
THERE'S SO MUCH--- THE HULK DOESN'T KNOW!
BUT AT LEAST HE KNOWS-- HE AND THE OTHER ONE CAN NEVER BE FRIENDS!
NEVER!!


STILL, HULK DOESN'T WANT TO HURT THE OTHER ONE--- NOT IF HE DOESN'T HAVE TO!
WE ARE TOO MUCH ALIKE... BOTH UGLY --- BOTH HATED BY HUMANS!
HULK WOULD FEEL LIKE HE WAS HITTING--- HIMSELF!

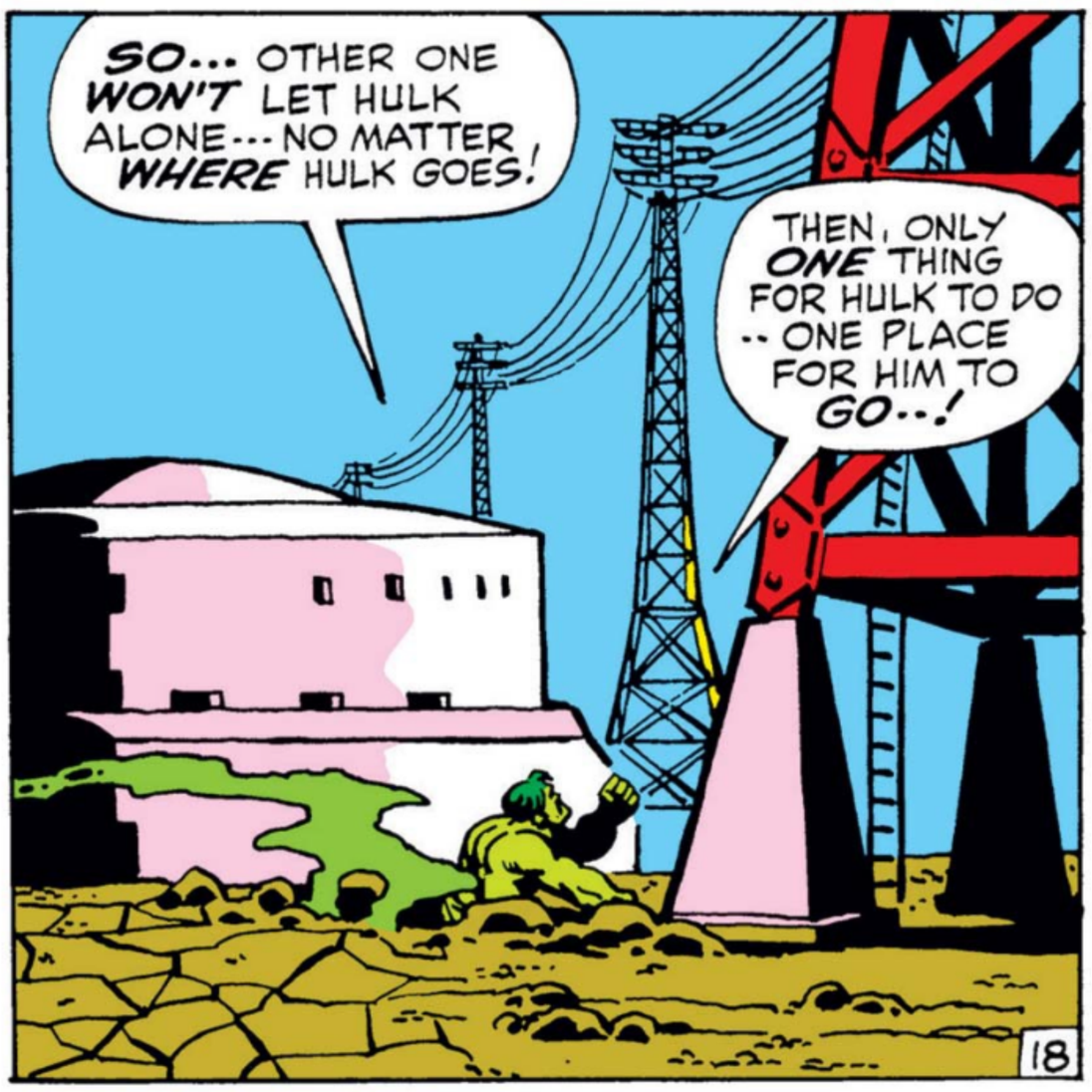

THEN, SINCE OTHER ONE IS GONE--- HULK WON'T LOOK FOR HIM!
HULK WILL GO, TOO-- SO WE DON'T HAVE TO FIGHT ANY MORE!
BUT, AS OUR GREEN-COMPLEXIONED COLOSSUS HIMSELF HAS SAID, THERE IS MUCH THAT HE DOES NOT KNOW OR UNDER-STAND---

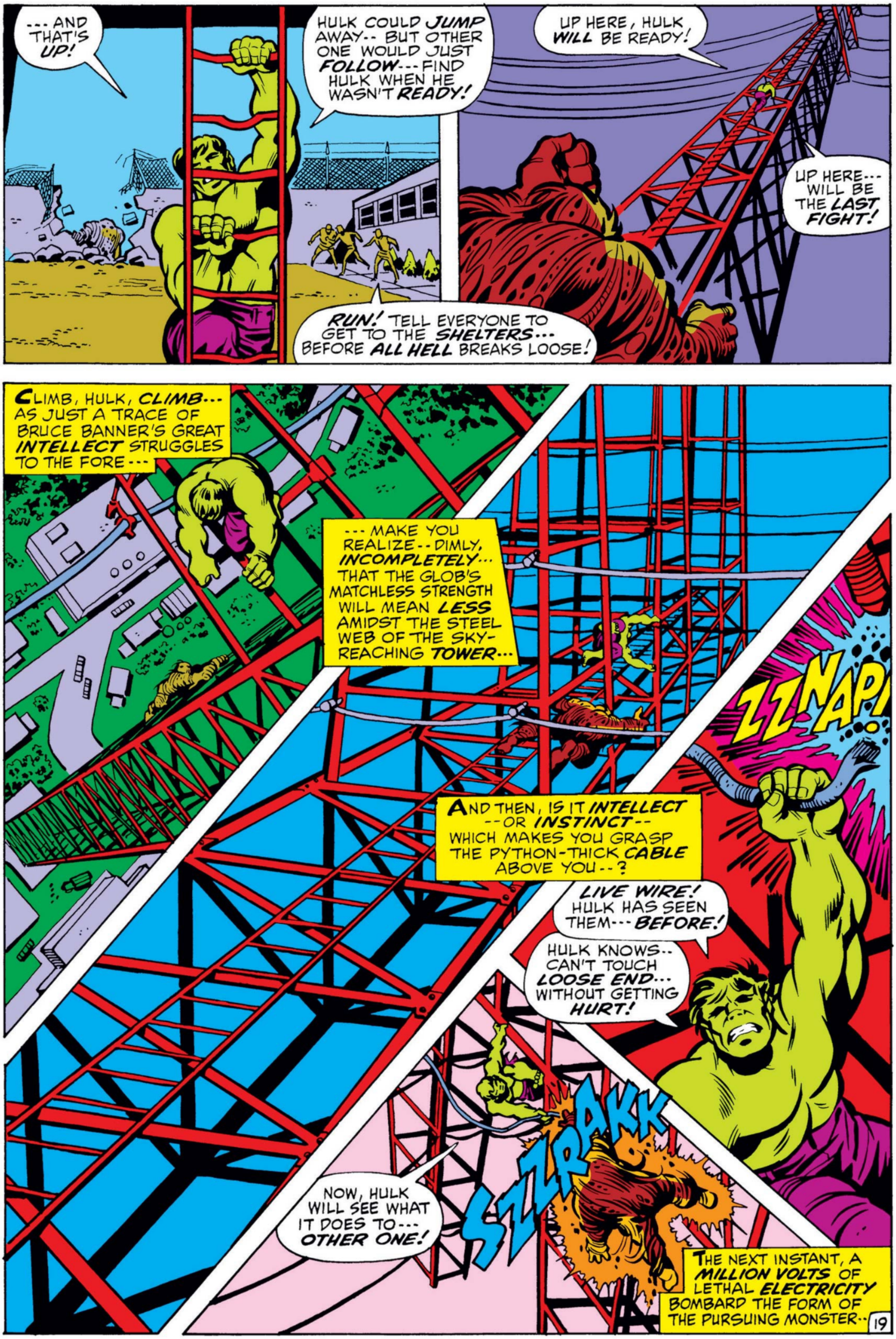
---AND ONE SUCH ITEM IS THE FACT THAT THE UNTIRING GLOB CAN TRACK HIM--- ANYWHERE-- ANYTIME--!
Edison West EXPERIMENTAL POWER PLANT
PLEASE STAND BACK FROM ELECTRIFIED FENCE
NO SIGN OF -- OTHER ONE!
GOOD! THEN HULK CAN---

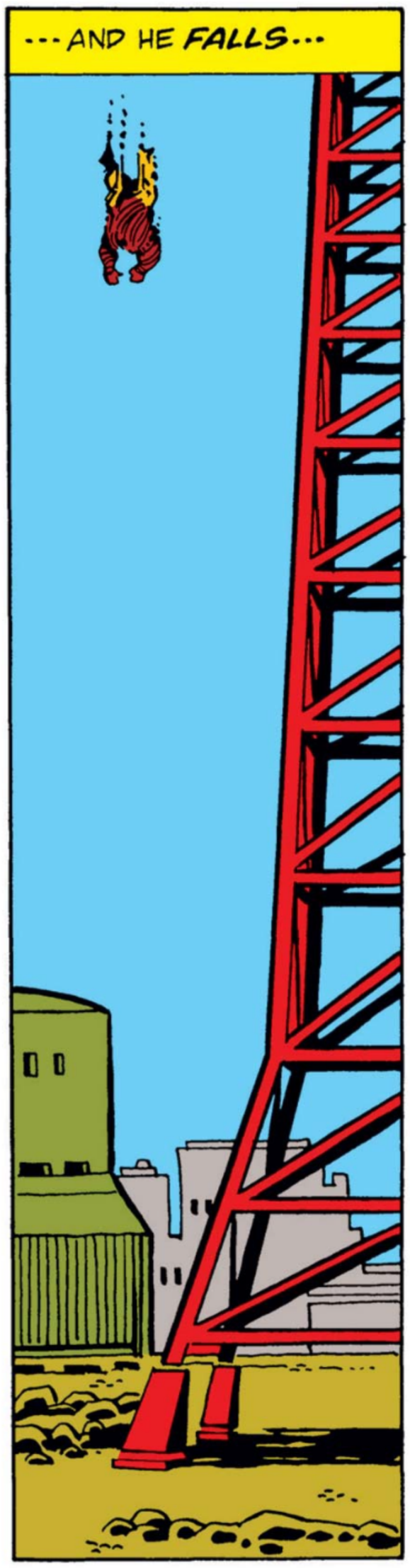
THWOMP!

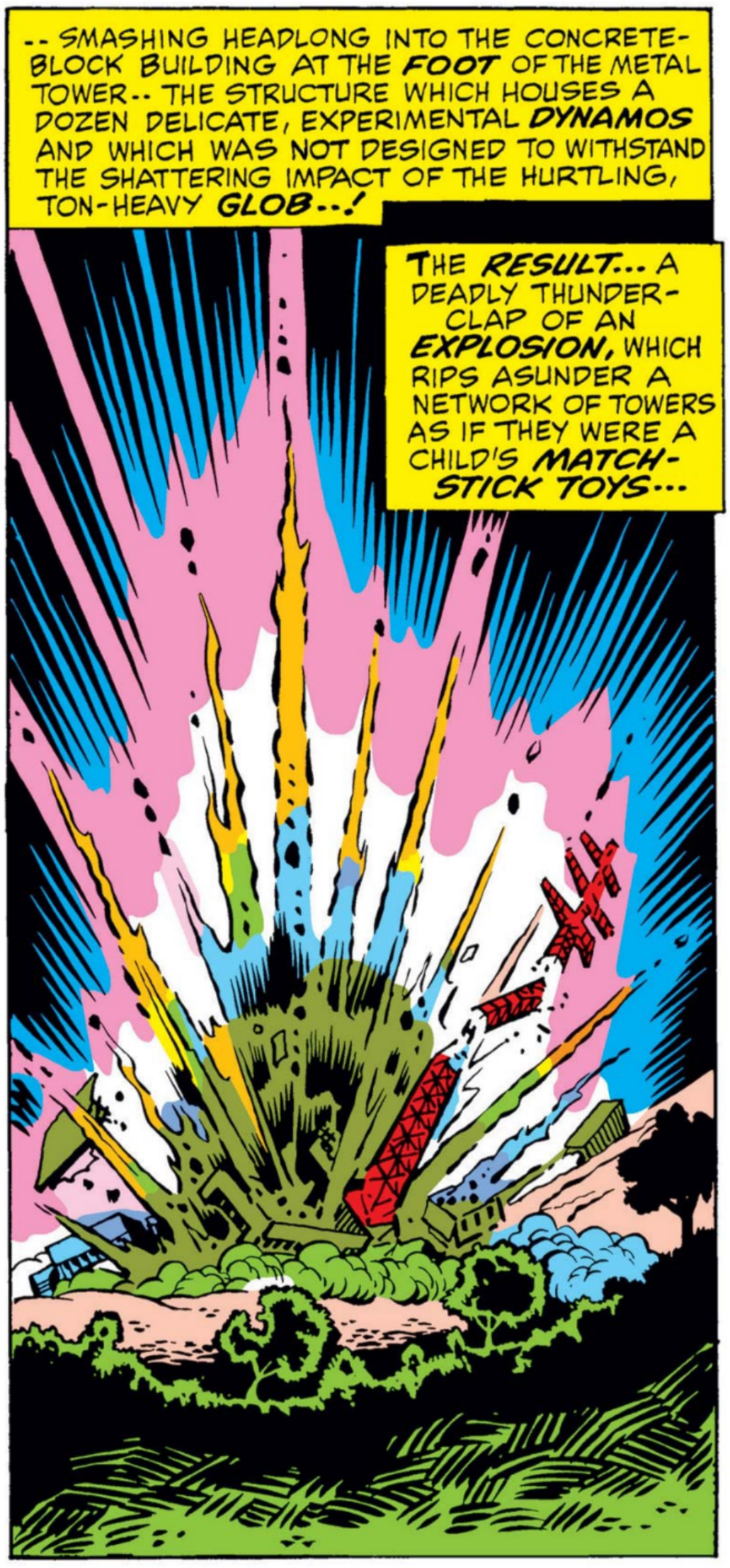
THEN, AS THE MIGHTY HULK STAGGERS--- STUNNED BY THE SHEER FORCE OF THE UN-SUSPECTED BLOW--- HE IS LIFTED OVERHEAD---

--TO BE HURLED LIKE THE MEREST RAG DOLL THRU THE DEADLY ELECTRIFIED SECURITY FENCE--!
AKKT!
ZZZ


SO... OTHER ONE WON'T LET HULK ALONE--- NO MATTER WHERE HULK GOES!
THEN, ONLY ONE THING FOR HULK TO DO -- ONE PLACE FOR HIM TO GO--!


--- AND THAT'S UP!
HULK COULD JUMP AWAY-- BUT OTHER ONE WOULD JUST FOLLOW--- FIND HULK WHEN HE WASN'T READY!
UP HERE, HULK WILL BE READY!
UP HERE--- WILL BE THE LAST FIGHT!
RUN! TELL EVERYONE TO GET TO THE SHELTERS--- BEFORE ALL HELL BREAKS LOOSE!
CLIMB, HULK, CLIMB--- AS JUST A TRACE OF BRUCE BANNER'S GREAT INTELLECT STRUGGLES TO THE FORE---
--- MAKE YOU REALIZE-- DIMLY, INCOMPLETELY--- THAT THE GLOB'S MATCHLESS STRENGTH WILL MEAN LESS AMIDST THE STEEL WEB OF THE SKY-REACHING TOWER---
AND THEN, IS IT INTELLECT --OR INSTINCT-- WHICH MAKES YOU GRASP THE PYTHON-THICK CABLE ABOVE YOU--?
ZZNAP!
LIVE WIRE! HULK HAS SEEN THEM--- BEFORE!
HULK KNOWS-- CAN'T TOUCH LOOSE END--- WITHOUT GETTING HURT!
NOW, HULK WILL SEE WHAT IT DOES TO--- OTHER ONE!
SZZRAKK
THE NEXT INSTANT, A MILLION VOLTS OF LETHAL ELECTRICITY BOMBARD THE FORM OF THE PURSUING MONSTER--
19


...AND HE FALLS...


--SMASHING HEADLONG INTO THE CONCRETE-BLOCK BUILDING AT THE FOOT OF THE METAL TOWER-- THE STRUCTURE WHICH HOUSES A DOZEN DELICATE, EXPERIMENTAL DYNAMOS AND WHICH WAS NOT DESIGNED TO WITHSTAND THE SHATTERING IMPACT OF THE HURTLING, TON-HEAVY GLOB--!
THE RESULT... A DEADLY THUNDER-CLAP OF AN EXPLOSION, WHICH RIPS ASUNDER A NETWORK OF TOWERS AS IF THEY WERE A CHILD'S MATCH-STICK TOYS...

--AND HURLS ALOFT THE MASSIVE HULK... ALIVE BUT STUNNED... AS IF HE WERE BUT A FRAIL GREEN LEAF--!

THE HULK WAS OUTSIDE THE CENTER OF THE BLAST... AND HE STILL LIVES!
FOR ALL MY CLEVERNESS... FOR ALL MY CAREFUL PLANNING...
I HAVE FAILED ONCE MORE!!
BUT, WHAT OF THE SWAMP-SPAWNED GLOB??

FEW MEN NOTICE THE SMALL, SLIMY PARTICLES WHICH RAIN FOR MILES AROUND UPON THE VERDANT COUNTRYSIDE---!

EVEN THOSE WHICH FALL UPON THE SURROUNDING SUBURBS ARE AT MOST LOOKED UPON AS LOATHSOME BUT LIFELESS SLUGS...!

AND BESIDES, IT IS DAYS BEFORE THE FIRST TWO OF THE PARTICLES MOVE... AND WRIGGLE TOWARDS EACH OTHER WITH A MINDLESS PURPOSE...

...FOR, ONE DAY LONG HENCE, ALL THE PARTICLES SHALL AGAIN BE AS ONE... AND ONE WHO NEVER TRULY LIVED SHALL WALK THE EARTH ANEW...!
AND IN THAT HOUR... LET ALL MANKIND BEWARE!!